



SOCCER ACTION

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• Yakka Banovic

Banovic: I was conned!

Yakka Banovic bent over backwards last weekend to come to terms with Melbourne Croatia but lashed out at the club this week claiming that he'd been conned after the move fell through.

"I definitely won't be joining Croatia now," said the transfer listed Brunswick Juventus goalkeeper. "I did everything possible to join Croatia. There was \$15,000 on my head and after having Terry Hennessy phone me up all the time I find that the committee doesn't really want me."

"I was prepared to settle for a couple of thousand dollars signing on which would have made me one of the lowest, if not the lowest, paid player at the club but the committee still wouldn't budge. I feel like I've been conned."

Banovic joined Croatia in the 1970s from Adelaide Croatia for a \$15,000 transfer fee. He then transferred to Heidelberg in a deal which netted Melbourne Croatia \$22,000 and goalkeeper Peter Blasby. Heidelberg was the big winner when it transferred Banovic to English club Derby County in 1980 for \$135,000. Banovic returned to Melbourne Croatia on a free in 1984 and in 1985 transferred to Juventus for \$15,000.

"I was supposed to get half of my transfer fee to Juventus so Croatia slapped \$30,000 on my head. I told them not to worry about my percentage and accept \$15,000 which they did."

"I just want all the Croatia supporters to know that it wasn't the money that stopped me returning this year. I know people talk about me as if I'm hungry for money but that's bullshit. I don't give a damn about things like that. At the stage I'm at in my career I just want to play and I couldn't care less about signing-on fees and match payments."

APIA Leichhardt is set to clinch the signature of Italian and world star Bruno Conti for at least four guest games this season.

APIA coach Rale Rasic has been in contact with Conti for the past few weeks and his club, Roma, is willing to let the brilliant midfielder go to Australia.

Conti, the mastermind behind Italy's World Cup triumph in Spain in 1982, is no stranger to these shores. Along with Roma teammate

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

Roberto Pruzzo, he came to Australia in the 1970s with an Italian Army touring side.

"Conti was one of the real heroes in Spain. He was the main attraction of those finals and he would put soccer on the map in this country," said Rasic.

Conti received rave reviews for his display in Roma's 1-0 win over Verona last weekend.

He was named man of the match by the Italian Press, which said that his performance recalled those heady days in 1982 when Italy defeated West Germany 3-1 in the World Cup Final with Conti tormenting the German defence.

Rasic first contacted Francesco Graziani, the former Torino, Fiorentina and Roma star currently with Udinese. Graziani wants to come here but only for business reasons whereas Conti is keen to play.

"I don't just want to bring any player over here. I want

someone everyone can look up to," said Rasic.

The APIA boss hopes to have Conti here by late May after the Italian season finishes. Rasic currently is negotiating for Conti to play six guest games but may have to settle for four.

But Rasic isn't the only West End NSL coach hot on the trail of a top class overseas player. Brunswick Juventus almost reached agreement to sign Bobby Russell from Glasgow Rangers last month. The deal fell through at the last moment and Juventus coach Len McKendry has switched his attention to another midfielder currently playing in the Scottish Premier Division.

And State League clubs aren't being left behind.

Canberra, now in the NSW State League, has signed an 18-year-old midfielder and a 24-year-old striker from Peruvian Second Division club Callao.

Canberra player-coach Augusto Palacios returns today (Wednesday) from his native Peru with the signed contracts from the new players and Canberra hopes to bring them to Australia in March.

Victorian State League club Polonia is toying with the idea of signing Jan Tomaszewski, Poland's goalkeeper during the 1974 World Cup Finals in West Germany.

Tomaszewski now is well over 30 and Polish authorities are prepared to release him to an overseas club.

Polonia desperately wants to bolster its goalkeeping department and sees Tomaszewski as the ideal man for the job.



• Bruno Conti with the Italian Army team which toured Australia in 1976. Back row: Vanello, D'Amico, Mei, Fontolan, Pruzzo, Zuccheri. Front row: Masseur, Chinellato, Desolati, Conti, Sala, Tancredi.

West End NSL live on SBS

SBS TV has negotiated a deal with the West End NSL which will see at least six live telecasts of league games this season with no city-of-origin blackout.

SBS wanted to turn its 'Match of the Day' program into a live show throughout the 1987 season but a majority of West End NSL clubs balked at the idea.

The live telecasts will mean a switch of kick-off times. SBS wants those games to start at 5.30 pm on Sundays to enable fans attending matches earlier in the afternoon to view the telecasts.

In the main, Match of the Day retains its 1986 format. Games not shown live will go to air about 10 pm on Sundays.

Les Murray again will host the show and the main match commentator will be Mike Hill. Murray, Hill, the producer and director will travel to Melbourne and Adelaide whenever the match of day isn't a Sydney game. Towards the end of last year Match of the Day scrubbed its sideline interviews in favor of brief com-

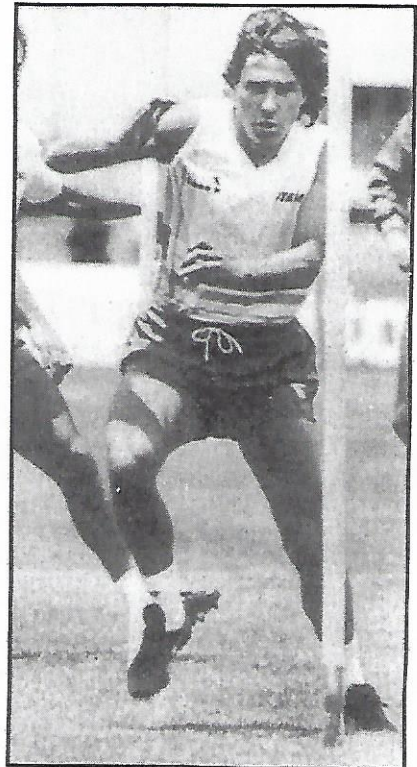
ments from reporters Laurie Schwab and Andrew Paschalidis and will continue to do so.

SBS is yet to name its Monday night soccer show for 1987 but the big news is that the show will move from its 6 pm timeslot to 8.30 pm and the 30-minute program will have an overseas content as well as highlights from West End NSL matches. Surveys showed that the 6 pm timeslot wasn't maximising audiences due to competition from commercial TV's news programs.

'Soccerrama' could be an hour-long program, and could be switched from its usual 6 pm timeslot on Fridays to lunchtime on Saturdays. It will remain essentially a studio-based program with panel-type discussions.

'World Soccer' is shown on Saturdays at 5.30 pm and repeated on Thursday nights. It will retain its current schedule.

SBS TV now broadcasts in every State capital and a host of country areas which means that the station will be beaming Australian soccer throughout land. Only Darwin will miss out on the station's comprehensive soccer coverage.



• Italian star Bruno Conti weaves his way through a series of poles during Roma training. Conti starred last weekend in Roma's 1-0 win over Verona.

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Marconi's \$87,000 splurge — P.2



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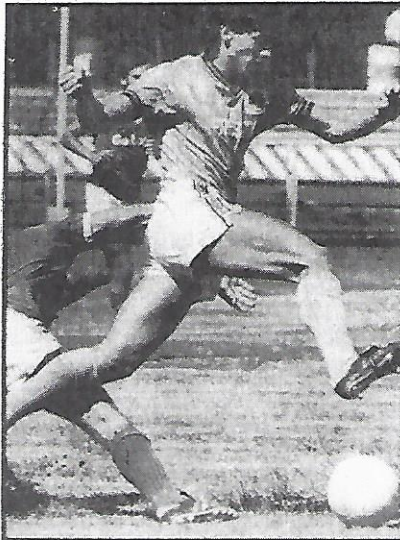
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Frank Farina — switched from Hakoah to Marconi for \$30,000 last Friday, making Marconi's outlay on new players in 1987 a staggering \$87,000.

SAINTS WANT HRISTOVSKI

St George hoped to complete the transfers of Zivko Hristovski from APIA and George Kulcsar from Canberra as we went to press.

APIA has slapped a \$5000 fee on Hristovski's head. Canberra wants \$3000 for Kulcsar.

"We're ready to pay about \$2500 for Hristovski. We might even go as high as \$3000," said St George coach Frank Arok.

"But Canberra's transfer fee for young Kulcsar is ridiculous. They got the kid for nothing. It makes you wonder when all of this kind of stuff will stop."

Marconi snares Farina

By JOHN MANGAN

Marconi plunged deeper into the transfer market last Friday when it clinched a \$30,000 deal with Sydney Hakoah for the signature of Soccerro striker Frank Farina.

The deal brings the money Marconi has spent in the close season to at least \$87,000, with the \$35,000 signing of Steve Maxwell from Adelaide Juventus and the \$22,000 deal for Farina's Hakoah teammate Gerry Gomez.

But they haven't just been spending big money at Club Marconi during the summer break. Coach Roberto Vieri sold Rod Brown and Peter Tredinnick both to APIA for \$32,000 and \$11,000 respectively.

The club also did well out of the Vardar tour, drawing a crowd of 12,000 to its game against the visiting side.

Morale is sky-high at Marconi right now and is receiving a further boost today with the arrival of former Yugoslavian First Division player Zlatko Nastevski. Nastevski was out here last year guesting with

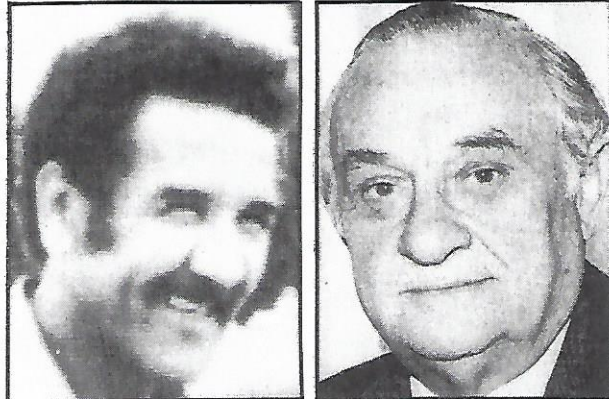
NSW State League club Rockdale Ilinden.

If that's not enough, Nastevski, Gomez, Maxwell and Farina are to be joined by South American ace Alvaro Perdomo who last year played with another NSW State League club, Auburn Uruguay.

Last Friday's deal adds Farina's name to the growing list of players who have got caught up in the big money deals which have dramatically changed the line-ups of Sydney's biggest clubs in the last few months.

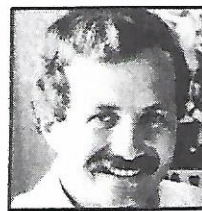
APIA, Marconi and Sydney Olympic have been the big spenders while Frank Arok at St George and Eddie Thomson at Sydney City Hakoah have seen their teams disappear in front of their very eyes.

Farina's move leaves Thomson to face the new season having lost five Australian internationals or former internationals — Farina and Gomez as well as John Kosmina, Joe Watson and John Spanos.



Charlie Perkins (left) and ASF president Sir Arthur George. Perkins has been an outspoken critic of Sir Arthur and has been touted as his successor.

Change of guard coming in NSW



Straight Shooting
with PETER SCOTT

of a full-time manager to head the organisation.

Secretary Aulden Brown, with decades of full-time service behind him, will step down in June, we are led to believe.

The move was prompted by Brown's state of health, but, while no-one has said so openly, the federation has long been toying with the idea of a complete change in the image of its administration.

The way is now open for this to be achieved painlessly. May I just say that an upgrading of the NSW federation's operations is long overdue and is of national importance.

As in the past, so it is now that soccer in Australia is as good as the administrations in NSW and Victoria.

In the Premier State something has definitely been lacking for a long, long time now.

As for Victoria, well, others better qualified than I will have to voice an opinion.

Charlie's Gong

That perennial battler, Charlie Perkins, received a "gong" in the Australia Day Honors List.

Well done Charles.

As well as reaching the highest levels attainable in the Federal Public Service and maintaining his position as one of the most visible spokesmen on behalf of the Aboriginal community, Charlie has also managed to retain his contacts with soccer over the years since his retirement as an active player.

It is fair to say that his administrative style in the game closely resembles his exploits as a player of the bone-cruncher variety, most notably with Pan Hellenic in Sydney.

His most visible exploits as a soccer administrator were his outspoken criticisms over the years of Sir Arthur George's reign as ASF President and a memorable run-in with an ABC reporter at Bruce Stadium whom he unceremoniously attempted to put off the air in mid sentence because of real or perceived slurs.

As for Sir Arthur, Charlie's barbs were like water off a duck's back, an anatomical peculiarity which the good knight has managed to turn into an art form over the years.

Perkins has been at times touted as successor to the ASF presidency, but one wonders whether he still has an interest in the job, now that the jostling for succession is about to start.

One also wonders whether Charlie would have the votes! That his heart is in the right place is beyond question, nor is

it hard to support most of the cures for soccer's ills which Perkins has been propagating over the years.

He could well be the man to grab this stagnating sport of ours by the seat of its pants and yank it out of its torpor.

Perkins' obvious disdain for politicking of the "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours" kind, so prevalent in Australian sports — and not just soccer, let me emphasise — is another endearing characteristic.

But what is lacking is a measure of patience and team-building ability which a man of Charlie's enthusiasm and vision must have.

After all, when you are out on a limb it is hard to realise your dreams unless there are a few trusted aides of proven ability perched there right alongside you.

1-0 to Arok

Soccerro boss Frank Arok scored the first "goal" in the perennial struggle men in his position must wage to succeed, but the "match" is far from over.

For a time there, it seemed at least a little doubtful as to whether the Soccerroos would play in this year's President's Cup in Seoul.

They will now, after Frank fought the good fight with the ASF's responsible committee, but apparently only a small squad will travel to this vital way station on the road to qualifying for the 1988 Olympic Games.

It seems that playing in a privately promoted tournament against three British clubs — all of which have toured here before, some more than once, and with various degrees of distinction — was deemed indispensable for the sake of a few bucks.

But, at least our boys will get a taste of the Olympic city atmosphere and meet a varied group of opponents from all corners of the globe.

As for the Brits, I can imagine them being drawcards in Perth, where international visits are still a special occasion.

But why foist them on Sydney and Melbourne again?

And will we have to put up with the inanities fed to the public trying to explain away the absence of big names?

Hands up anyone in Australia who still believes that off-season tours by British, especially English clubs, are anything more than holiday jaunts, rudely interrupted by the occasional kickabouts masquerading as international soccer matches.

Zinni, Lujic on the list

Andrew Zinni still is transfer listed by Brunswick Juventus. Vlatko Belic, Vlado Bozinovski, Suleiman Curovic, Zdravko Lujic, Ljube Petrovski and Ernie Tapai still are transfer listed by Footscray JUST.

That may come as a surprise to fans of both Juventus and JUST. Zinni has agreed terms

with Juventus but has yet to sign a new contract while Lujic has been acting in a caretaker capacity in the absence of JUST coach Dragoslav Sekularac, who was expected to return from Yugoslavia as we went to press.

All these names appeared on last week's official VSF transfer list, circulated among the member clubs.

According to the VSF, Juventus officially has 21 transfer

listed players, JUST has eight, Heidelberg eight and Melbourne Croatia five.

It's interesting to note that Alan Davidson doesn't appear on the South Melbourne Hellas list. The appeals board hearing last week at which Davidson was going to argue against the \$35,000 placed on his head, was adjourned till later this month. Hellas sought the adjournment in order to better prepare its case.

Here's the official transfer list with price tags:

B. Juventus
Y. Banovic \$15,000, P. Borin \$3,000, G. Calarco \$1,500, R. Carraro \$900, M. Chomaniuk \$1,000, M. Cosentino \$800, F. De Amicis \$3,000, G. Falcone \$2,000, J. Kopolitsas \$1,500, A. Manduca \$1,000, T. Marano \$900, P. Martinucci \$1,400, E. Molinaro \$1,000, J. Montemurro \$3,000, T. Polzella \$500, G. Rizza \$1,600, J. Sweeney \$2,200, S. Valentino \$1,000, J. Vallesse \$500, L. Veladi \$500, A. Zinni \$9500.

Foot. JUST
B. Anatoski \$3,000, V. Belic \$15,000, V. Bozinovski \$20,000, S. Curovic \$6,000, Z. Lujic \$10,000, L. Petrovski \$4,000, P. Simic \$3,000, E. Tapai \$25,000.

Green Gully
G. Campbell \$7,000 negotiable, J. Murray \$4,000 negotiable.

Heidelberg
J. Angele \$17,000, J. Gabrielson \$5,000, J. Liapis \$2,000, J. Metaxas \$7,000, F. Mihalopoulos \$3,000, J. Pasakos \$2,000, N. Rahovitsas \$2,000, A. Solakis \$900.

Melb. Croatia
R. Markovac \$4,000, T. Protodero \$3,000, R. Saitlik \$2,000, T. Zilic \$4,000, J. Zubic \$500.

P. Makedonia
N. Kotovski \$1,500, P. Kousas \$1,500, M. Smolevski free.

SM-Hellas
C. Giatas \$10,000, K. Talias \$10,000.

St. A. Dinamo
S. Grgic \$1,500, G. Pozar \$1,500, K. Lloyd \$6,000.

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TO THE EDITOR

SIR —
In your first issue of Soccer Action for 1987, Peter Scott, writing in his weekly column "Straight Shooting", gave the indication that there is no one in the field of aspirants who seemed able and equipped to take over from Sir Arthur George.

How very wrong.

We in Victoria are fortunate to have that very man — ready made and proven in sport and business acumen — namely Jack Reilly. His heart is in soccer and he would be a credit to the game we all love.

So, go to it Jack, the game needs you.

— JOE TONNA,
Pascoe Vale,
Victoria

America's Cup is the greatest?

Don't make me laugh!

One of the eternal fascinations of sport is its truly democratic nature: race, religion, creed, birth, status and inherited privilege all count for nothing next to talent, determination and courage.

Nobody has ever become a world champion polo vaulter because his father was rich and few, if any, of the great soccer stars, tennis players, track heroes, jockeys and others have reached the top through their family's influence.

Sport is democratic even in its appearance: when you see runners on the track, fencers on the piste, gridiron players in the mud or eel-like teenagers in the swimming pool, they all wear the same appropriate outfit and gear.

This is the very essence of the great sporting contests, such as the Olympic Games where, at least in theory, all competitors have equal opportunity to triumph.

If the character of a sporting contest is truly democratic — perhaps egalitarian is a better word though I fear this, having been abused by all sorts of extremist groups over the years — then the running of most sports is, to say the least, autocratic.

To give you an easy example, it has puzzled me many times in the past that our soccer administrators are, fundamentally, unelected people.

They are not elected by the soccer fraternity as such, not by the spectators, fans and often not even by the whole club memberships.

Yet they, in turn, elect among themselves their own executive, a president, a chairman perhaps and then go on governing the sport, for better or worse.

In our political system, every government has an opposition: in sporting administrations there are no oppositions. Opponents, perhaps but not the type of "loyal opposition" the Westminster system is based on.

In fact, people who criticize any ruling administration are not even referred to as opposition but as enemy, fit to be burned at the stakes.

I often wonder what would happen if, once, a sporting organisation — let's say the

ASF — decided to elect its president through truly democratic means, a plebiscite held among all fans.

What if two, three or more candidates would run for office, forced to announce a platform, a policy and some firm ideas — a true presidential election, as in the USA, rather than being "crowned" by a dozen or so cronies.

All this is, of course, day-dreaming; no such election methods are ever likely in any sport, here or overseas.

Nobody needs to fear. Go back to sleep.

Talking of "democratic sports", last week I caught part of a 2GB interview with IXL chief, BHP bidder, America's Cup sponsor and part-time media mogul John Elliott.

(I hope that in this present mad media climate he won't take over "The Age" and "Soccer Action" which would spell the end of me.)

Elliott, commenting on the possibility of staging the America's Cup again at Fremantle in 1990, said:

"This is the most amazing sporting event, the whole world is watching it on TV more than any other sporting contest."

Well, now, clearly, John Elliott has never heard of the Olympics or the World Cup.

To believe, even for one intoxicating moment, that the America's Cup, despite all its hoopla, can be compared to the soccer World Cup shows a high degree of sporting illiteracy.

Strictly speaking, the America's Cup is not even a proper sporting contest, being so clearly restricted to individuals or syndicates who have up to \$25 million to spend.

The true sporting equivalent of the America's Cup are the yachting events at the Olympics.

To call the America's Cup "the most amazing" sporting event is silly when we all know that large parts of the world — all of Africa and Asia and most of Europe — couldn't give a damn about it.

I see that a few people are dusting off an old suggestion of mine, namely, that soccer's seasons should be changed, from winter to summer. I brought this up, in the

framework of a fairly long article, some 10 years ago, because I felt that we should try to get away from the overbearing rivalry of the other football codes played in winter.

That is what soccer had done in the USA where, in winter, American football (gridiron) rules the roost, brooking no opposition (apart from a bit of ice hockey and basketball).

My suggestion was not even tested then; only very few people like Eddie Thomson and Doug Collins supported it.

Since then, however, a few things have happened.

The US pro soccer, from where I gained my "inspiration", gave its soul back to its creator; clubs like Cosmos, Aztecs, Diplomats and others which used to draw 50,000 and more no longer exist. America has, once again, rejected soccer.

An even more important development has been the phenomenal success of one-day cricket in Australia.

Ten or 15 years ago soccer, played in the summer months, would have faced only occasional opposition from a visit-

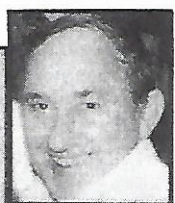
ing cricket team playing a Test series — otherwise the summer calendar was empty.

No longer: hardly a day passes without some sort of international cricket drawing huge crowds — and huge publicity.

Sure, if soccer switched to summer we would escape the clutches of rugby league and Aussie rules — but not that of cricket. And unlike soccer, cricket is part of the Australian lifestyle.

I think soccer has missed the summer boat. As an experiment it may be still worth

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN



a try — but we shouldn't expect to set the world on fire with our games played on the same weekend when, for instance, Alan Border's Australia XI is facing the West Indies.

We have tried midweek, weekends, winter and now perhaps summer; maybe the solution is in finding the right timetable when opposition to the code is the weakest — such as 3 am...

PNG withdrawal boost for Arok

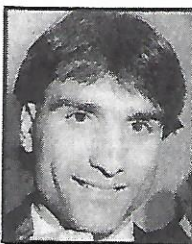
Australia is almost certain to reach the final qualifying tournament for the 1988 Seoul Olympics after the withdrawal recently of Papua New Guinea from Australia's preliminary qualifying group.

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● Jim Patikas

to play any preliminary qualifying games.

Curiously enough, the losers' showdown will be held in New Zealand.

The final qualifying series should involve Australia, Israel, New Zealand and Taiwan.

The Socceroos will use their trip to the President's Cup tournament in Seoul this June as a stepping stone on the way to



● David Mitchell

their away match with Taiwan. National coach Frank Arok was prepared to play both games in Taiwan but, for political reasons, the Taiwanese want to send their national team to Australia for the second match.

The Socceroos also will participate in a big international tournament to be held here in late May and early June.

Arok's best 11 will play two

games in the tournament organised by Westway, a West Australian sports promotion company. Arok will then take his elite squad to Olympic Park in Melbourne to face touring English First Division side Everton in a midweek, floodlit match and will leave for Seoul the next day. The Socceroos B team will participate in the remainder of the Westway tournament which features Manchester United, Nottingham Forest and Glasgow Celtic.

The Westway tournament will be played from May 25 to June 4, with two games in Sydney, two in Melbourne and four, including the final, in Perth.

Prizemoney is \$A20,000 for the winner, \$A10,000 for the runner-up, \$A5000 for the third-placed team and \$A2000 for fourth.

The President's Cup will be played from June 6 to 21 and features Chile, Kuwait, Nigeria, South Korea, North Korea, AC Milan, Sao Paulo, an east-

ern bloc nation and an English First Division club.

The clash between Australia and Everton is on Wednesday, June 3.

Socceroo fans hoping to see former national team stars Jim Patikas, Eddie Krncevic and David Mitchell returning from Europe to take part in Australia's hectic international schedule needn't hold their breaths.

"There's no chance in the world of getting releases for these players," said Arok.

"They are professionals now, and I'm afraid their clubs don't think that Olympic qualifying games are important enough to allow them to play for their country. If you're playing a World Cup qualifying match then you can get them — 48 hours before the game at the earliest.

"We can jump up and down all we like but it won't do any good. There isn't a thing that can be done about it."

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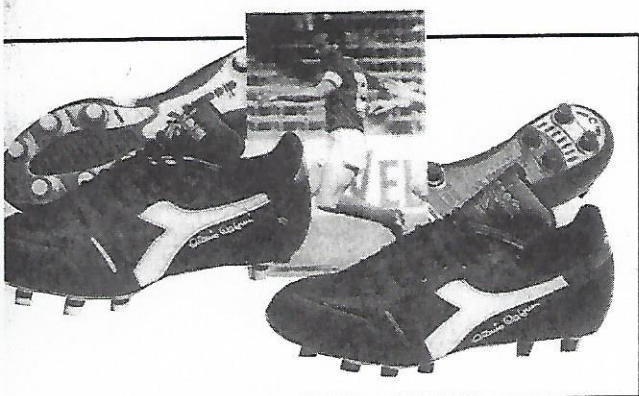
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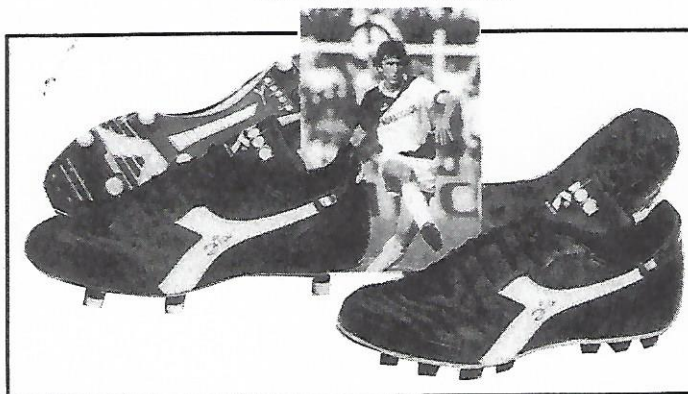


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THIS MAN AIMS TO KEEP A CLEAN SHEET

Franken: Watch your step, Oliver

"I'm a pretty impatient guy. I don't want to wait until I'm 40 to get the number one spot in the national team. Jeff Oliver's playing pretty well right now, but I'll be pushing as hard as I can to knock him off."

So says Sydney Croatia's new goalkeeper Tony Franken, signed for a \$12,000 transfer fee from Canberra.

It was a coup for Croatia which fended off Brunswick Juventus, Sydney City Hakoah, APIA Leichhardt and Marconi while it came to terms with the 22-years-old West Australian.

"I know I've got a lot of time left to grab that national team spot but I've never really been given a chance to establish myself in the side," said Franken.

"Right now I see myself as Australia's second choice goalkeeper but I'm hoping that will change."

One thing that's certain to change is the amount of fans chanting Franken's name this year and that's going to be a real buzz for him.

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

"It's great already to be playing in front of 5,000 people and that's just in pre-season games. When the league starts we'll get 10,000 to 15,000 at our games. I can't wait."

Franken was born in Fremantle and played with Melville as a junior. His first contract was with East Fremantle Tricolour and he made his senior debut in the West Australian State League when he was 16.

He represented Western Australia throughout junior ranks but his first big break came in 1981 at the national youth championships in Canberra.

"That's where Jim Shoulder spotted me and offered me a place at the Institute of Sport. The two years I spent there, the best of my life. Shoulder and Ron Smith taught us everything about being professional players and it gave me the best

grounding possible to break into the National League," said Franken.

It also provided a springboard for Franken's elevation to the national youth team and he regards his experiences in the World Youth Championships in Mexico in 1983 as the highlight of his career.

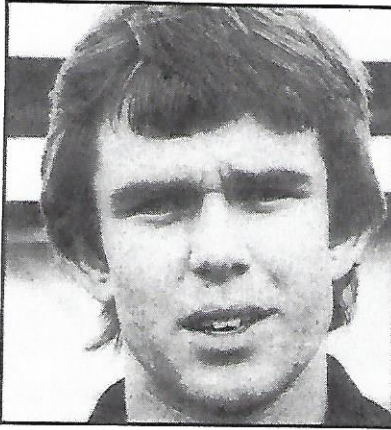
Franken joined Canberra for the 1984 season and also took up a job as a specialist goalkeeping coach at the institute, a position he retains today where he plays an integral part in the development of Peter Gunning and David Mower.

"Peter and David both have enormous potential. This is their second year at the institute and they're both on the fringe of national youth team selection. I've got high hopes for them."

The AIS team will play in the Victorian State League this season but the move hasn't been welcomed by the Melbourne Press and national youth coach Les Scheinling is highly critical of it. The AIS matches won't be for points so Scheinling believes that they'll lack the competitiveness essential to the development of the AIS players.

Franken thinks otherwise. "Okay, we're not playing for points but the AIS games will involve prize money which will give them a competitive edge. I think that local businesses are putting up about \$500 a game and there's talk about getting a big sponsor to cover travel costs."

Franken spent three seasons with Canberra, which was one of 10 clubs dumped from the National League last year. They were great seasons for Franken, who received rave reviews, but they were lean



● Tony Franken: "The club's (Canberra's) biggest downfall was not working on stabilising the coaching situation."

times for his club. "The constant changes didn't help. The club's biggest downfall was not working on stabilising the coaching situation and that was really disruptive for all the players."

"Everyone was really disappointed last year that we didn't stay in the National League. We didn't buy enough players and we were trying to produce young players at the wrong time. As a result we were very inconsistent."

Canberra has a stiff fight on its hands to win back its NSL

status. To do so it has to win the NSW State League title and already Blacktown looms as a giant hurdle among others. But Franken remains optimistic.

"Augusto Palacios is Canberra's player-coach and he's bringing over a sweeper and a striker from Peru to strengthen the side. I think he's only retaining two or three of last year's first team squad and he's going to give some of last year's youth team players a go."

"It's going to be tough for Canberra but Palacios has some great ideas on the game."

I think he'll adopt a South American approach which means that we'll see a more skilful Canberra in 1987. I hope it works out that way at least.

Doug Collins, Roy Thomson and Steve Bryant were Franken's coaches at Canberra. "Doug Collins had a lot of good ideas. They were based on the UK style of football. We had a definite team plan and it was the most organised season I've had in senior soccer."

"Roy (Thomson) was a very good friend but he wasn't given a fair go by the club. He was made the scapegoat for the team's performances. He was a really straightforward type of guy. It was no-holds barred with Roy. You knew exactly where you stood with him."

"When Roy was sacked I think that Steve Bryant let the club know that he had ambitions to coach and they offered him the job. It was very hard for him — we had to play the top four or five sides as soon as he took over. Steve didn't do much coaching as such. He was more of a manager."

Brunswick Juventus, Sydney City Hakoah, APIA Leichhardt, Marconi and Sydney Croatia made their moves late last year. Franken made it clear that he wanted to remain based in Canberra throughout 1987, the final year of a sports studies and coaching degree he hopes will eventually lead to teaching.

So why did Croatia win the race to clinch his signature? "I first spoke to Croatia's president Tony Basic and I was impressed straight away. He explained to me exactly what was expected and I liked

that. I then spoke to the coach, Vedran Rozic, and he was very, very professional. Croatia realised that this probably is my last year at college and that I'd have to stay in Canberra but at the end of the year I'll be able to move to Sydney."

Or Melbourne. Franken has signed a one-year contract with Croatia and he has a maximum transfer fee clause of \$12,000. If he can be employed in the sports studies field in Victoria he'd probably accept the post. That would send some Melbourne clubs into a frenzy as they clamored for his signature. After all, \$12,000 for one of the finest goalkeepers in Australia is a far from prohibitive price tag.

Franken has made 15 Socero appearances. His first, in 1984, was with the national B team against Glasgow Rangers but the MCC. He made substitute appearances last year against the Victorian All Stars and the South Australian All Stars and was in the starting lineup of Australia's clash with Canton in China but made way for Mike Gibson of St. George at half time.

He made seven national youth appearances, three in full internationals — against Mexico, Scotland and South Korea in 1983.

Franken expects Sydney Croatia to do big things in 1987. "We lost 1-0 to Olympic in a friendly and they looked a great side. I couldn't pick a weakness in their line-up, but don't worry about Croatia — we'll be up there. We've got a great blend of experience and youth and we'll be very, very competitive. I can assure you of that."



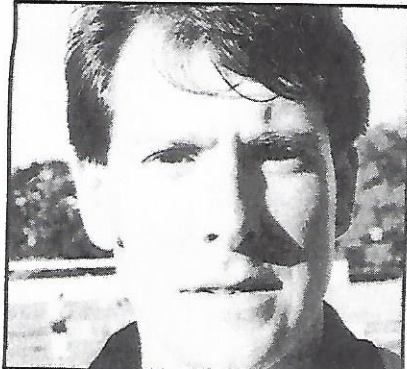
● Doug Collins



● Vedran Rozic

... BUT THIS MAN'S AIM IS GOALS GALORE

Deeley: Hellas didn't impress me



● Andy Deeley: "Big Laurie (McKinnon) might be the starter and me and Dougie (Brown) might be the guys fighting for our places."

Andy Deeley doesn't have problems knocking in the goals but he sometimes has problems knocking out windows. That's why he missed a training session with Heidelberg last week and was fined.

"Well, we was knocking out this woman's windows, you see, and sometimes you have problems putting in the new ones. Well, we had problems and I couldn't just walk away and leave these bloody big holes in this woman's walls now, could I? That's why I couldn't get to training," said the New Zealand international.

Deeley chuckles about it, in fact he laughs a lot. There's a carefree, take-it-or-leave-it manner about the man but give him half a chance inside the opposition penalty area and he's the kind of cold, calculating customer that gives goalkeepers nightmares.

He doesn't even know how

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

much Heidelberg will fine him and he doesn't seem concerned.

"I'll just have to wait and see what's in my next pay packet," he says, then chuckles.

Most observers expect Deeley to be an automatic starter for Heidelberg this year with new signing Laurie McKinnon from Box Hill and former Macedonia and South Melbourne Hellas star Doug Brown vying for the other striker's role whenever coach Roy MacLaren uses a 4-4-2 formation. Deeley, though, doesn't see it that way.

"The way I see it, I think that big Laurie might be the starter and me and Dougie might be the guys fighting for our places."

"I'm used to playing off a big guy, a target man. I think that's where you'll get the best out of me but that's something for the coach to work out. All I can say is that whatever success I've had has been when I've played in that role. I don't mind going and fetching the ball but when things have been going right for me it's been when there's a big guy alongside me that the other lads can hit with the ball."

Gisborne City must have had a big lad to hit with the ball last year. Deeley won the 1986 Golden Boot award as the leading scorer in New Zealand. He

notched 18 league goals and won the Players' Player of the Year award too.

Australian fans first noticed him during the Tasman Cup series last year. He was New Zealand's most dangerous forward in both matches and it was his goal that gave the Kiwis a draw in Auckland. Straight after that match at the Mount Smart Stadium, the Australian newspapers reported that Heidelberg had signed Deeley. That also was all the talk during the build-up to the game which had him more than a bit perplexed.

"I knew absolutely nothing about the move. I didn't know what Heidelberg was or where they were. After the game in Auckland two New Zealand reporters came up to me and asked me what was going on. I told them I didn't have a bloody clue, then an Australian reporter walked up to us and said: 'No problems about Heidelberg. You'll get plenty of money there. I didn't know what to say. You should have seen the looks on the faces of the Kiwi reporters. They thought I'd been having them on.'"

But Deeley had known of MacLaren's interest in him. MacLaren, who spent some time on the Aston Villa coaching staff before coming to Australia last year, phoned Deeley. MacLaren was coaching Northcote then in the Victorian State League and Deeley's business partner and close friend Kenny Drakeford



● Roy MacLaren

was playing at Northcote. Deeley, however, didn't even know that MacLaren had become coach of Heidelberg when the story broke, but when after agreeing terms with the club he finally arrived in Australia on January 5 this year.

"I trained the next day and my first impressions were that Australia was a land of green hills because that's all I saw for the first few sessions. Green hills and more green hills that you had to run up and down. There're quite a few things different to what I'm used to. I'm not used to supporters turning up to watch you at training and of course, this big Greek derby thing between us and South Melbourne Hellas."

Deeley's first taste of what always has been a grudge match came last Saturday night when Hellas beat Heidel-

berg 2-1 in the Buffalo Cup. The crowd that night, just over 6,000, was the biggest Deeley has played in front of at club level.

"It was a pretty good atmosphere and even though we got beat I thought that we played quite well. The Greek lads in our side got stuck right in and to be honest, I thought that Hellas would be better than they were. I mean, if you believe some of the things you read in the papers, then they're the team to beat this year but they didn't really impress me."

"We'll do alright. All the lads have got their heads down and they're giving it their best shot. You can't ask for more than that."

Coming to Heidelberg is a major move for Deeley and his wife who is expecting their second child in about a week's time. While he's playing here, the NZ national team is playing a Soviet Union club and further games are planned against Everton and Norway before what he calls the "serious matches", the Olympic preliminary qualifying games, get underway.

"While I'm over here there might be some guy doing me out of place in the New Zealand side. You never know. I just hope that I get a call-up for the Olympic qualifying games."

Deeley was born in the West Midlands in England. Ask him about his football career over there and he'll say there's not much to tell.

"I was just bumming about the Southern League. I had a few trial games with a few clubs but nothing worth talking about."

Those few clubs included Wolverhampton Wanderers and West Bromwich Albion.

"Drakey (Kenny Drakeford) was in New Zealand and his club, Dunedin, asked me to come over. It was like a breath of fresh air for me to tell you the truth. I was in a bit of a rut back home."

That was in 1983. Just over three years later Deeley had become a New Zealand citizen and an international. Now he's trying to establish himself in the West End NSL. If he fails he might return to New Zealand.

"Yeah, if things don't work out over here I suppose I can go back over there. I've got a house in Dunedin. It's always good to have something to fall

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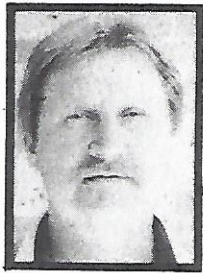
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IT'S MARCONI FOR THE CUP!



1987 State Bank Challenge Cup round-up with ALEX VESIC

A six-goal feast sends Juve into the semis



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AMPOL CUP with ALLAN CRISP

A near full-strength Adelaide Juventus rammed home four goals in the last eight minutes to reserve a berth in the Ampol Cup night series semi-finals.

The six-goal scoreline was what the Juventus fans were expecting from the Ampol Cup holder and national champion.

But until the late withering burst it seemed that the loyal supporters would have to settle for considerably less.

After winning its opening match with a depleted side, Juventus called up Captain Bugsy Nyskohus, Neville Founders, Sergio Melita and Joe Mullen and grabbed the initiative with a two-goal burst in two minutes mid-way through the first half.

Joe Mullen got the show on the road when he accepted a great pass from his young brother Tim to beat Brian Gale in the Berries goal.

Flushed with that success, Joe Mullen presented Paul Wilde with a beautiful ball pass and it was 2-0 for Juventus after 22 minutes.

Juventus coach Zoran Matic substituted Alex Tobin for Paul Shillabeer and replaced Nyskohus with Gary Higgins from the start of the second half — changes which saw Juventus lose its rhythm.

Salisbury seized its chance to get back into the action as Juventus goalkeeper Willie McNally found himself unusually busy.

It was the calm before the storm, however, a storm which brought a towering header from Wilde, an opportunist goal from substitute Juan Rodriguez, a clinical effort from Aurelio Vidmar and a penalty from Melita.

Apart from the points, coach Matic had a bonus in the continuing fine form of fledgling striker Tim Mullen and from another good display by Argentinian Roques Barbero.

Tim Mullen, 19, in both games to date, has staked a solid claim to a permanent spot in Juventus's west end NSL team.

His stature, skill, work-rate

CROATIA 2 (Timar 10th, Pankhurst 74th) POLONIA 1 (Kosmina 33rd) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 3,400. (double-header). Caution: Marve (Croatia). Referee: Mike Browning 8.

CROATIA: F. Blazevic 7, Watkins 8, Barnett 8, Slager 7, Stepic 6, Marve 6, Timar 7 (Maric 56th), Rankin 7, Pankhurst 8, Todd 6, Blute 7. Coach: Johnny Nyskohus.

POLONIA: Jacques 8, Bucco 7, Peter Mullen 7, Harley 8, S. Cafuta 7, Doornie 7, Sanderson 7, Panos 8, Kosmina 7, Piotrowski 6, Witwicki 6. Coach: Adam Karpinski.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 6 (Wilde 22nd and 72nd, J. Mullen 21st, Rodriguez 73rd, Vidmar 77th, Melita 80th) SALISBURY UNITED 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium (double-header). Caution: Sullivan (Sal). Referee: Steve Vatkovic 7.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS: McNally 8, Shillabeer 7 (Tobin 41st 7), Barbero 7, Nyskohus 7 (Higgins 41st 7), Founders 8, Melita 7, Santrac 6, J. Mullen 7 (Rodriguez 51st), Vidmar 7, J. Mullen 8, Wilde 8. Coach: Zoran Matic.

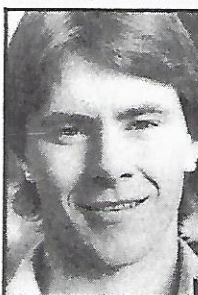
SALISBURY UNITED: Gale 6, Hutchins 7, Haig 7, Jackson 7, Costanzo 8, Letner 6 (Coney 54th), Williams 7, Bell 6, Woods 7 (Reeves 50th), Sullivan 7. Coach: Jimmy Campbell.

Group A standings

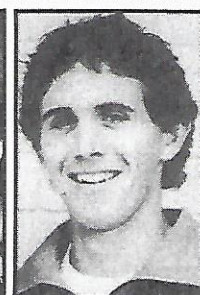
	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Ad Juventus	2	0	0	7	0	4
Beograd	1	0	1	0	2	2
Campbelltown	0	0	1	0	1	0
Salisbury	0	0	2	0	7	0

Group B standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Croatia	1	1	0	4	3	3
Ad Hellas	1	0	0	6	2	2
Para Hills	0	1	0	2	2	1
Polonia	0	0	2	3	8	0



• Joe Mullen



• Serge Melita

and heading ability are remarkably similar to those of his established brother.

The style is so alike reporters will need to concentrate fully, to separate the strikers.

A GEM OF A GOAL BY FRANK TIMAR

Just as Croatia squeezed in to save a point against Para Hills with a late goal, so it repeated the dose to score a 2-1 win over luckless Polonia.

There was little to stir the purist in this largely inadequate version of the beautiful game.

Time after time, passes were surrendered to the opposition, leading to the suspicion that some type of pre-match pact had been agreed upon.

But all games have their highlights and there can be no doubt that Frank Timar's magnificent header from a Robert Marve corner in the 10th minute was a gem.

show-stopper with his 20 metre Brazilian-style free kick in the 33rd minute, although questions should be asked about goalkeeper Frank Blazevic's positioning after he had organised his wall.

Apart from that blemish, young Blazevic made a good first team debut and fully justified coach Johnny Nyskohus's decision to choose him ahead of Damien Siklich.

In the end, it was fitting that non-stop Darryl Pankhurst should supply the winner for Croatia after Paul Blute had swept over the cross.

With three points from two games Croatia is on the right track for finals participation even if it loses its show-down with Adelaide Hellas in its last minor round game.

The quarter-finals of the 1987 State Bank Challenge Cup could well be fought without Sydney City Hakoah, the National Cup holder.

Hakoah was beaten 2-1 by State League club Uruguay last week and now has to win its two remaining matches to qualify.

Melita and St. George are in Hakoah's way. For Melita, there is still two games to go and a win over Uruguay would put the Eagles into the quarter-finals while a draw for Saints against Hakoah would put an end to Hakoah's dreams of winning the Challenge Cup.

In Group A the win by Sydney Croatia over Wollongong City put a new complexion on the table. Croatia now has qualified with Blacktown needing two points against Wollongong Macedonia to qualify in second place.

Marconi has qualified for the quarter-finals and for APIA it now is just a formality, so the two Italian-backed clubs remain in the competition.

I expect the quarter-final draw to be: Croatia v Sutherland, Sydney Olympic v Blacktown City, Marconi v St. George and Melita v APIA.

I fancy Croatia, Marconi, Olympic and Melita to reach the semi-finals.

Croatia is not playing well at present but has an awesome team and if the side clicks things might just work out for the strongly supported club.

Melita Eagles and Marconi are playing the best football at present and are worth every cent people pay to watch them. Marconi has strengthened its team with Gomez, Farina, Maxwell and Nastevski.

Melita has the makings of an NSL team and according to coach Dennis Hoggart that is exactly where Melita is heading.

Sydney Olympic has no less than seven current or former Socceroos — Dakos, Ratcliffe, Raskopoulos, Kalantzis, Katholos, Soper and Kosmina — and a Uruguayan international, Vicente Estabillo. Emil Dragicevic played with Dinamo Zagreb, Spiro Hantzis would have to be the most talented fullback around, Gary Phillips can step into any other NSL side while Terry Patalis has had overseas experience.

An awesome team indeed. On its day it is unbeatable.

But if I have to lay it on the line and pick the winner of the 1987 State Bank Challenge Cup, then my money's on Marconi. New coach Roberto Vieri has got his men playing scintillating soccer. Right now, Marconi is a gourmet's delight and fans are bound to flock back to Marconi Stadium in 1987.

Let's look at last week's matches:

Canterbury 0 Inter Monaro 0

At Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 726.

Some superb goalkeeping by Ian Barker, two glaring misses in front of goal and an early shower for Angelo Ambrosino of Inter Monaro highlighted this game between Canterbury and Inter Monaro.

The visitors attacked early and looked to have Canterbury's measure. An early free kick on the edge of the area was parried brilliantly by Barker, then came a shot by Marko Perinovic which hit the post and yet against another point blank drive by Borella was saved by Barker.

George Kalogeras, Canterbury's midfielder, was brought down midway through the first half by Ambrosino and the red card came out in a flash from referee Alex Spirovski. Ambrosino stood stunned for a considerable time, then had to be escorted off by a team mate while Kalogeras was attended to by Canterbury's physio.

Inter Monaro's captain for the day is well known for his uncompromising style of play, but rarely as a player who would step outside the bounds of the rules. He was dealt a harsh blow by referee Spirovski and a yellow card at worst would have been sufficient punishment.

Following this incident the game livened up with Inter Monaro holding a slight advantage in the attacking department. Dino Taglieri's header missed its mark in the 28th minute but that was the only real opportunity for either side during the rest of the first period.

Inter broke clean again through David Borella in the 54th but a great save by Barker, certainly the best of the match, kept Canterbury in this game.

At the other end, Karavatakis came on for Angels in the 64th and only a few minutes later he was left with a simple tap in at the far post but failed to find the net and the best chance Canterbury had in this match went begging with Notaras hugging the ball inches from the line after a pitiful attempt by Karavatakis.

Vic Fernandez junior, who has developed into a stylish young player under the watchful eye of his father and current coach of Inter Monaro, was given the last chance in this match when he raced past two poor tackles on the edge of Canterbury's penalty area but his left footer failed to find the mark.

Vic Fernandez senior was pleased with the result considering that his side played for almost three quarters of this match with 10 players. He felt that Ambrosino's dismissal was harsh but would not elaborate.

Marconi 4 Ku-Ring-Gai 0

At Marconi Stadium. Scores: Gomez 15th, 20th, Maxwell 40th, Farina 45th.

Marconi is going to be Sydney's newest attraction come April and the start of the West End National League.

That was the clear message after Marconi breezed past Ku-Ring-Gai in stylish fashion in the fourth qualifying round of the State Bank Challenge Cup at Marconi Stadium.

The fact that the three newcomers of Marconi



• Inter Monaro captain Angelo Ambrosino was stunned when he was sent off against Canterbury and had to be escorted from the ground by a team mate.

all the goals was not as important as the way Marconi played and created chances.

It was such a shame that a pitiful crowd of just over 700 turned out to see one of Marconi's best performances to date.

One-touch football was the order of the day and precision passing by the Marconi players had their small band of enthusiastic supporters on their feet throughout this match. With Craig Mason spraying passes to both sides of the Park and Carter and Rizzotto making some fine runs along the touch lines, Ku-Ring-Gai was always stretched to the limit.

David Lowe was involved in everything and had a hand in all but one of the goals scored. After 15 minutes his corner kick was brilliantly met by the head of Gerardo Gomez giving Lacey no chance.

Only five minutes later a superb move by Marconi saw Gomez score again. Mason's brilliantly weighted through ball for Lowe saw the ex-youth international go wide before crossing to the far post for Gomez to score with a diving header.

In the last minute of the first half and a series of short passes led to Lowe who found Steve Maxwell with a through ball and the tall striker strode past the keeper to score.

Frank Farina's piledriver in the opening minutes of the second half saw Marconi move into a commanding 4-0 lead and it looked as if Ku-Ring-Gai was in for a real hammering.

But for all their good work, the Marconi players lost their goalkeeping touch and some simple chances went begging. Maxwell rounded the keeper in the 53rd but could not find the net. Mason hit the woodwork with a very strong header in the 60th, then yet again Maxwell missed, this time with a header close to the line.

With five minutes remaining, Mason chipped the ball for Farina who headed over the bar from close range.

It was an impressive looking Marconi but credit must go to Ku-Ring-Gai for its 'never-say-die' attitude and some strong performances from Bennett, Pepper, Nile and Bass.

In fact Nile had Marconi beaten on the flank to find Craig Bass unattended some eight metres from goal when Marconi led just 1-0 but the finishing of Bass was poor and the chance went begging.

For Marconi, Mason and Lowe were superb, while Farina scored one of the best goals of his career in his debut for his new club.

Manly Warr. 2 APIA 0

At Marconi Stadium. Scores: Lester 34th, 60th (MW), R Brown 13th, Bertogna 77th (A).

APIA can thank its lucky stars and an incredible 30 metre drive by Arno Bertogna for its 2-2 draw with Manly Warringah.

ly rated a chance in this match after losing a number of prominent players from last year. Six of its top players were missing as Manly faced the might of APIA in the third round of this year's State Bank Challenge Cup.

When Rod Brown latched onto a Janusz Baran through ball early in the piece to give APIA the lead few would have given Manly odds of even 100-1 to take a point from this match.

But Manly fought valiantly to stay in the game. Its defence was well marshalled by Ashley Williamson and Nick Conradi kept his goal intact.

Mark Cimarosti was the inspiration for the Sea Eagles up front and he served notice of what was to come when he battled his way into the APIA penalty box for 18 minutes, faced Tony Pezzano, but pushed the ball wide. Cimarosti was in fine touch and six minutes before half time he made some progress on the right flank, crossed and Tim Lester did the rest, heading past a bewildered Pezzano for the equaliser.

Brown hit the crossbar early in the second half then came yet another shock for APIA and it was Lester again. Cimarosti was the instigator, pushing his pass through many legs for Lester to beat Pezzano and give Manly an unexpected lead.

With only four minutes left and APIA committed to attack, Manly countered through Lester. He was joined by Cimarosti and Stuart to face a sole defender in Bertogna. Lester made an awful mess of things and instead of passing to an unmarked Manly player he elected to go for his hat-trick. Pezzano saved and the very next minute Manly paid dearly for this miss.

Bertogna sent in a crushing right foot drive which beat Jim Watson from some 30 metres to make it 2-2.

The absence of Charlie Yankos was certainly noticed in the APIA defence, while its midfield showed little if no creativity at all. The substitution of Masi for Parison and Brady for Djordjević failed to make an impression and with Baran fading out of the game during the second half, Terry Butler could do little to lift his team to greater heights.

Pezzano was livid with some of his defenders and one could hardly blame him.



● Marconi's Geoff Gunning — scored a hat-trick in Marconi's 6-1 thrashing of Freshwater. Gunning also had a hand in Marconi's opening goal and turned on a superb display.



● David Lowe — was involved in everything against Ku-Ring-Gai and it was his corner in the 15th minute that

Uruguay 2 Sydney City 1

At St. George Stadium.
Scorers: Mosquero 30th, Cuba 59th (U). Souness 44th (SC). Souness, McCulloch, Robertson, Saad and Lee returned to the Hakoah side but failed to dampen the enthusiasm of Uruguay and subsequently Hakoah was beaten at St. George Stadium last Friday night.

Hakoah failed to clear properly in the 30th minute and Fernando Mosquero picked up the ball at the 25 metre mark to slam home a great right foot shot.

Hakoah struggled during this period and failed to subdue its State League opponent.

Ian Souness made it 1-1 soon after half time with a free kick from 18 metres. His free kick had to be retaken and at his second attempt Souness buried it hard and low.

Gabriel Wilk and Aytec Genc waltzed through a very poor defence and Genc looked set to score but he made certain by passing to Fraser Cuba who was in a better scoring situation. Cuba made no mistake and the shock of the round was on the cards.

Hakoah attacked with all the venom of old but its finishing was awful to say the least. Uruguay's defence, with Carlos Rosano in goal, stood tall. The siege which lasted the last 20 minutes ended in vain with Hakoah giving Uruguay an unexpected and belated New Year's present.

Marconi 6 Freshwater 1

At Marconi Stadium.
Scorers: Maxwell 31st, 54th, Gunning 47th, 49th, 68th, Mason 62nd (M). Corrigan 74th (F).

Geoff Gunning scored a hat-trick, Steve Maxwell two and Craig Mason one goal after one of the most convincing wins by Marconi in recent years.

For almost the entire first half Warringah Freshwater showed all the signs of one of the better State League teams, fighting every inch of the way to keep Bowman's net protected, but the final outcome was inevitable.

This new-look Marconi side was methodical and fast. The speed of both fullbacks, the audacity of Gunning and Maxwell and the creativity of Lowe and Mason were inspiring factors behind Marconi's success. The speed and tenacity of Ian Gray, the strength of Steve Calderan, the sure hands of Bruce James and the leadership of Tony Henderson added to the woes of Freshwater as it struggled not to concede too many goals.

This awesome, new-look Marconi side included Gerry Gomez and later in the game Klaus Okon. Gomez is well known to most soccer fans but the introduction of Okon by coach Roberto Vieri was refreshing to say the least. This youngster spent some time in Europe, putting the polish to his game. At 16 years old he is the youngest among the crop of Marconi youth players that are hoping to hit the big time.

He is quick, skilful and shows enough promise to be given a long-term contract by the Fairfield club.

But back to the game.

Gunning was running hot last week and started the rot with a 31st minute cross which was superbly guided in by the head of Steve Maxwell for the opening goal.

With two minutes to go to half time, Gunning was again the instigator, finding David Lowe inside the area. Lowe faced Bowman then fired in a right footer which hit the side netting.

Seven minutes into the second half, Maxwell was on the spot to fire a vicious right footer which Bowman only parried. Gunning picked up the rebound to make it 2-0.

Paul Carter sped down the right flank two minutes later then crossed and Gunning was on hand to head past Bowman.

The Freshwater defence made an awful mess of things in the 54th, allowing Lowe to intercept then find Maxwell who simply walked it in for goal number four.

A 30-metre dipping drive by Craig Mason in the 62nd minute beat Bowman all ends up, then Gunning completed his hat-trick after receiving the ball from substitute Russo to turn one player before slamming in a hard low drive.

Dennis Corrigan gave the scoreline some respectability with a consolation goal six minutes from the end with a superb 30 metre shot, beating James with ease. Then came an incredible miss by Mark Holloway which could have reduced the arrears a little further.

Blacktown 1 Rock Ilinden 0

At Croatian Sports Centre.
Scorers: Brian Ellum 48th.

Blacktown City had to struggle all the way before overcoming Rockdale Ilinden in the third round of the State Bank Challenge Cup. One goal separated the two sides at the end of the 80-minute game and that was a fair indication of proceedings out on the park.

Blacktown came at Ilinden during the opening 40 minutes and almost paid dearly for its enthusiasm. The Demons held the strings all over the park but managed to allow their opponents enough space to create chances.

It was a strange situation with Blacktown holding possession and Ilinden creating opportunities by playing a quick, counter-punching game.

And while Blacktown had most of the ball during the first half it barely managed a shot at goal, while Rockdale Ilinden managed to miss three glaring opportunities.

Satisfied that Blacktown would continue with the same game plan, Ilinden sat back waiting for a chance to pounce, but the Demons approached the second half with more caution. After only eight minutes of the second stanza Blacktown scored the only goal of the match and that certainly didn't help the counter-attacking style of Ilinden.

Brett Thornthwaite drew out Ilinden's defence to the left, before producing a final diagonal pass for Brian Ellum who raced clean to score.

From then on Blacktown had far less urgency to come forward in numbers and controlled play without much fuss. For Ilinden it was a matter of not having enough fire power, despite some good work by Billy Pilovski, Brian Beddoni and to a lesser extent Sasha Spirovski.

Croatia 2 Wollongong City 0

At the Croatian Sports Centre.
Scorers: Jones 59th, Arnold 61st.

The stubborn resistance of the side from the south coast was broken down during a torrential downpour midway through the second half with Jones and Arnold grabbing the goals which sent Croatia into the quarter-finals.

Wollongong played well enough during the first period to hold its own and gave Croatia some anxious moments, but it was a completely different story during the second half when the local side moved into top gear to subdue its opponent.

The speed of Clinch, Slater and Jones came to the fore and with some clever touches by Odzakovic the defensive wall of Wollongong City just had to crumble. But, as I said before, it didn't happen until that sudden downpour midway through the second half. That was when Mark Jones managed to escape the attention of the Wollongong defence to score in the 59th.

Robbie Slater created the second goal with a fine run on the right flank. He rounded Morlando before crossing low and accurately for Arnold to tap it in.

Despite some fine football displayed by Croatia during

INTER MONAR 0 Canberra City 0

At Marconi Stadium.
Scorers: A. Spirovski 8.

INTER MONAR: Notaras 7, Whitham 6, Chicco 41st, 71, Tilius 45th, 7, Gaggi 7, Arthum 7, Taglieri 6, Ambrosio (sent off 26th), Fiorese 5, Perinovic 7, Fernandez 7, Borella 5.

CANTERBURY: Barker 8, Mantas 6, Nicopoulos 7, Radman 8, Severi 7, Stavropoulos 6, Kolaras 7, Petas 7, Marinos 5 (Vantarakis 64th), Arambasic 6, Angelis 5 (Koravitsis 64th).

MARCONI 6 (Gunning 47th, 49th, 68th, Maxwell 31st, 54th, Mason 62nd) FRESHWATER 1 (Corrigan 74th) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 726.

Referee: P. Smith 8.

MARCONI: James 7, Carter 7, Calderan 7, Henderson, 8 Rizzotto 7, Mason 8, Gray 7 (Russo 57th), Lowe 8, Gomez 8, Maxwell 8 (Okon 57th), Gunning 9, Gillian 6 (Napra 67th), Duckling 6, Dean 6, Sarge 5, Walker 6 (Rimmer 62nd), Berry 7, Tkachuk 5, Speranza 5, Corrigan 7, Holloway 5.

KU-RING-GAI 0 MARCONI 4 (Gomez 15th, 20th, Freshwater 40th, Farina 45th) at Marconi Stadium. Referee: K. Tooke 7.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey 6, Keven 5, Watson 6, Papper 6, Kernburn 5, Quigley 6 (Pearce 63rd), Sutherland 6 (Dene 63rd), Nile 7, Bennett 7, Fagin 6, Bass 7.

MARCONI: Jones 7, James 41st, 71, Carter 8, Henderson 7 (Wheatley 41st, 71), Calderan 7 (Gunning 41st, 61), Rizzotto 8, Gray 8, Mason 9, Gomez 8, Lowe 9, Farina 6, Maxwell 6.

APIA 2 (R. Brown 13th, Bertogna 7) MANLY WARRINGAH 2 (Lester 34th, 60th) at Marconi Stadium. Referee: C. Smyth 8.

APIA: Pezzano 7, Bozanic 6, Bertogna 7, Lorenz 6, M. Brown 6, Djordjević 6 (Birdy 75th), Butler 6, Phillips 5, Brown 5.

MANLY WARRINGAH: Conradi 7 (Watson 50th, 51), Dennis 6, Pearce 7, Williamson 7, Sestonovich 6 (Smith 41st, 51), Etherington 6, Juergens 5, M. Butler 5, Lester 7, Cimarosti 8.

URUGUAY 2, Mosquero 30th, Cuba 59th) SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 1 (Souness 44th) at St George Stadium.

URUGUAY: C. Rosano 9, Tomasich 7 (Hastie 41st, 71), Kralovic 8, O'Donnell 8, Woods 8, Mosquero 8, Pealic 6 (Varela 55th, 61), Cuba 7, Genc 8, Wilk 8, Morson 5.

SYDNEY CITY: Laniff 6, Souness 7, Robertson 7, Sociolatos 7 (Briggs 64th), Hooker 6, Peterson 6, McCulloch 5, Saad 7, Campbell 6 (Parish 64th), Lee 6, Barton 5.

ST GEORGE 7 (Fletcher 37, Kotsias, Hughes, Pet-

kovski) NEWCASTLE 0 at St George Stadium. Crowd: 800.

ST GEORGE: Gibson 7, Green 7 (Petkovski 50th, 71), Owens 6, M. O'Shea 8, Slavski 7 (Grubisic 45th, 71), Kotsias 7, Fternati 6, Porter 7, Hughes 7, O'Brienshaw 8, Fletcher 9.

NEWCASTLE: Kelly 5, Milosevic 7, Harrison 5, Cavanagh 7, Acovski 5, Nicholson 5, Hamilton 5, Gresham 5 (Roberts 61st), Penfold 5, Gascoigne 6, Rowney 5.

BLACKTOWN CITY 1 (Ellum 48th) ROCKDALE ILINDEN 0 at Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 1,200.

BLACKTOWN CITY: McPherson 7, Maier 7, Sterrey 6, Reynolds 7, Northam 8, Kay 7, Donyor 7, Ellum 9, Godzik 5 (Thornthwaite 41st, 71), Sandy 7, Van Blerk 8.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Zic 7, Mikovic 6, D. Wilson 6, Ziras 6, Rodas 7, G. Wilson 7 (Jordan 53rd), Savor 6 (Lamond 41st, 71), Odzakovic 6 (Nastolski 31st), Pilovski 8, Beddoni 6, Spirovski 7, Mirevski 6.

CROATIA 2 (Jones 59th, Arnold 61st) WOLLONGONG CITY 0 at the Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 1,200.

CROATIA: Franken 7, Rezo 7, Viletstar 7, Rozic 7, Jennings 8, Clinch 8, Slater 7 (Carro 62nd), Savor 6 (Lamond 41st, 71), Odzakovic 7, Arnold 7, Jones 8.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Young 6, Skeen 7, Dmetzits 7, Berringer 6 (Arcosa 62nd), Morlando 7, Coakeley 7 (Piel 74th), Giraldi 8, Ainsworth 8, Brodnick 6, Stevanovski 6, Easthorpe 7.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (Kalanitzis, Soper, Raskepoulis) CANBERRA 1 (Bryant) at Bruce Stadium.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 7 (Londos 41st, 71), Dragicevic 8, Ratcliffe 7, Dakos 8, Hantzis 7 (Sinos 65th), Raskepoulis 7, Kotamandis 7, Kahlolis 6, Patalis 6 (Spanoudakis 41st, 71), Soper 7, Kalantzis 8.

CANBERRA: Economopoulos 7, Nelson 6, Gardner 7, Bryant 8, Mazis 7, Weldon 7, Sermanni 7, P. Reis 6 (Margalan 41st, 61), Cerro 7 (Marric 65th), Junno 6, A. Reis 6.

INTERMONAR 2 (Femandez 11th, Tilius 76th) SUTHERLAND 2 (Sharpe penalty 25th, 60th) at Bruce Stadium.

INTER MONAR: Notaras 8, Arthur 6, Gaggi 7, Borella 6, Trpkovski 6, Tilius 7, Fiorese 6, Perinovic 8, Martinello 6, Fernandez 7, Chicco 6 (Zanado 51st, 61).

SUTHERLAND 2 — Nelson 6, Burrows 6, Terry 7, Selar 7 — Harrington 7, Parsons 6, Marcond 41st, 81, Meades 7, Tasker 7 — Hill (Duncan 70th), Sharpe 9

Group A results: Croatia v Rock. Ilinden 3-0, Croatia v Blacktown 0-0, Croatia v Woll. City 2-0, Woll. City v Blacktown 1-1, Rock. Ilinden v Macedonia 1-0, Rock. Ilinden v Blacktown 0-1, Woll. City v Macedonia 3-0.

Group A table

	F	A	Pt
Croatia	8	1	7
Blacktown City	2	1	4
Wollongong City	4	3	3
Rockdale Il.	1	4	2
Woll. Macedonia	1	7	0

Group B results: Olympic v Inter Monar 3-0, Olympic v Sutherland 0-0, Olympic v Canterbury 10-0, Canterbury v Canberra 2-1, Canterbury v Sutherland 2-1, Canterbury v Inter Monar 0-0, Inter Monar v Sutherland 2-2.

Group B table

	F	A	Pt
Syd. Olympic	15	1	7
Canterbury	2	10	3
Sutherland	3	4	2
Canberra	3	6	2
Inter Monar	2	5	1

Group C results: APIA v Ku-Ring-Gai 3-0, APIA v Marconi 2-2, APIA v Manly 2-2, Marconi v Freshwater 6-1, Marconi v Ku-Ring-Gai 1-1, Freshwater v Ku-Ring-Gai 1-1, Freshwater v Manly 1-1.

Group C table

	F	A	Pt
Marconi	15	4	7
APIA	7	4	4
Manly	4	6	2
Freshwater	3	8	2
Ku-Ring-Gai	1	8	1

Group D results: Melita v Newcastle 6-0, Melita v St George 2-1, St George v Uruguay 3-0, St George v Newcastle 7-0, Hakoah v Newcastle 3-0, Hakoah v Uruguay 1-2.

Group D table 1

	F	A	Pt
St. George	11	2	4
Melita	8	1	4
Hakoah	4	2	2
Uruguay	2	4	2
Newcastle	0	15	0



STATE BANK CHALLENGE CUP

PROGRAMME OF MATCHES

Wednesday, 11th February 1987
6.15 Uruguay — Melita Eagles, St George stadium
8.00 St George — Hakoah, St George stadium

Saturday, 14th February 1987
7.00 Newcastle — Uruguay, Adamstown Oval

Sunday, 15th February 1987
4.00 Inter Monaro — Canberra City, Bruce Stadium
5.00 Canterbury — Sutherland, St George Stadium
6.45 Melita Eagles — Sydney City, St George stadium
4.00 Woll. Macedonia — Blacktown, Gabbie Stadium
5.45 Rock. Ilinden — Woll. City, Gabbie Stadium
4.00 Manly — Ku-Ring-Gai, Cromer Park
5.45 APIA — Freshwater, Cromer Park

Quarterfinals will be played on Saturday 21st of February and Sunday

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BUFFALO CUP DETAILS

GREEN GULLY 2 (D. Ward 54th, Cumming 61st) BOX HILL 0 at Olympic Park, last Wednesday night. Caution: Hennessy (BH). Crowd: about 500 (double header).

GREEN GULLY 2 (D. Ward 54th, Cumming 61st) BOX HILL 0 at Olympic Park, last Wednesday night. Caution: Hennessy (BH). Crowd: about 500 (double header).

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Lewis 48th, 66th) FRANKSTON PINES 0 at Olympic Park, last Wednesday night. Caution: Cumming (FP). Crowd: about 500 (double header). Referee: Sam Zoumas 6.

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Lewis 48th, 66th) FRANKSTON PINES 0 at Olympic Park, last Wednesday night. Caution: Cumming (FP). Crowd: about 500 (double header). Referee: Sam Zoumas 6.

FOOTSCRAY JUST 1 (Karic 47th) CROYDON 1 (French 71st) at Olympic Park, last Friday night. Crowd: about 3,000 (double header). Caution: O'Reilly, McDonald (C). Referee: Mike Galt 5.

FOOTSCRAY JUST 1 (Karic 47th) CROYDON 1 (French 71st) at Olympic Park, last Friday night. Crowd: about 3,000 (double header). Caution: O'Reilly, McDonald (C). Referee: Mike Galt 5.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Cole penalty 8th, van Egmond 11th) ST ALBANS DINAMO 0 at Olympic Park,

last Saturday night. Crowd: about 6,000 (double header). Caution: Opatinas (PM); Duzel (Dinamo). Referee: Barry Grant 5.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Cole penalty 8th, van Egmond 11th) ST ALBANS DINAMO 0 at Olympic Park,

last Saturday night. Crowd: about 6,000 (double header). Caution: Opatinas (PM); Duzel (Dinamo). Referee: Barry Grant 5.

GEORGE CROSS 3 (Edwards 3rd, Durakovic 9th, 20th, Campell 69th) BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1 (Vesnaver 50th) at Olympic Park, last Friday night. Crowd: about 3,000 (double header). Referee: Bernie Upjohn 7.

GEORGE CROSS 3 (Edwards 3rd, Durakovic 9th, 20th, Campell 69th) BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1 (Vesnaver 50th) at Olympic Park, last Friday night. Crowd: about 3,000 (double header). Referee: Bernie Upjohn 7.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Wright 20th, Egan 43rd) HEIDELBERG 1 (Deeley 45th). Buffalo Gold Cup match at Olympic Park, last Saturday night. Crowd: about 6,000. Referee: Chris Bambridge 7. Caution: Kalogeros, Egan, Miranda (SMH); Ketsakidis (HA).

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (Wright 20th, Egan 43rd) HEIDELBERG 1 (Deeley 45th). Buffalo Gold Cup match at Olympic Park, last Saturday night. Crowd: about 6,000. Referee: Chris Bambridge 7. Caution: Kalogeros, Egan, Miranda (SMH); Ketsakidis (HA).

HELLAS: Laumets 6 — Russell 6, Anezakis 6, McDonald 6, Postecog 7 — Kalogeros 7, Miranda 7, Wade 7, Crane 8 — Wright 7, Egan 8 Coach: Brian Garvey

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 6 — Pappas 7, Ketsakidis 7, Selemidis 8, Marley 6 — Kanesoulis 7, Valentine 7, Brown 7 — Anastasiadis 7, Tsoakis 7, Deeley 7 Coach: Roy MacLaren

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 6 — Pappas 7, Ketsakidis 7, Selemidis 8, Marley 6 — Kanesoulis 7, Valentine 7, Brown 7 — Anastasiadis 7, Tsoakis 7, Deeley 7 Coach: Roy MacLaren

Group A standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Melb Croatia	2	0	3	0	4	
George Cross	1	1	0	3	1	3
P Makedonia	1	1	0	2	0	3
Frank Pines	0	1	1	0	2	1
St A Dinamo	0	1	1	0	2	1
Juventus	0	0	2	1	4	0

Group B standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SM-Hellas	2	0	5	1	4	
Green Gully	1	0	1	2	1	2
Heidelberg	1	0	1	2	2	2
Box Hill	1	0	1	2	2	2
Croydon	0	1	1	1	2	1
Foots JUST	0	1	1	1	4	1

SM-Hellas
Green Gully
Heidelberg
Box Hill
Croydon
Foots JUST

PLAYER C SERIES A

Heidelberg veteran Theo Selemidis early leader in the Buffalo Gold Cup 1. He has scored maximum points in 1.

The award is voted for by a panel of best three players in each match. He rounded off.

Croatia v Frankston Pines: 2-5-1 — Cristaldo (MC)

Green Gully v Box Hill: 3 — Cumming (GG), Hogben (GG)

JUST v Croydon: 3 — Karic (JUST) Brown (CC)

Juventus v George Cross: 3 — Mart Zinni (BJ), Keogh (GC)

Makedonia v St Albans Dinamo: 3 Silfaks (PM); 1 — Opatinas (PM)

SM-Hellas v Heidelberg: 3 — Seler (SMH); 1 — Anastasiadis (HA)

Leading votegeters:
6 — Selemidis (HA); 4 — Zinni (BJ)

Brown (CC), Cumming (GC), Gojevic (St A), van Egmond (PM), White

LAST-GASP EQUALISER

Foot. JUST 1 Croydon 1

Scorers: Karic 47th (FJ); French 71st (C)

A goal in the 71st minute ended this match and left JUST stunned. Just when referee Mike Galt was preparing to whistle for full time, Croydon created its second good second-half chance and snatched a last-gasp equaliser.

Jimmy Nelson, on the left, played the ball square across the edge of the JUST penalty area. Matt McDonald raced in, won it in a tackle, spun around and slipped it to big Graham French wide on the right.

French's low drive beat Zoran Vialnic and went inside the far post for what was the most dramatic finish yet in the 1987 Buffalo Cup.

Out wide on the right of the JUST midfield was little Minh Tri Vo, the former Vietnamese international. Some of his runs in this game were eye-catching and when his fitness gave out and he was replaced by Zivkovic, it was to rousing applause from the JUST fans in the grandstand.

In the 13th minute, Croydon should have taken the lead. McDonald drove his corner over and French, with a free header, headed wide of the near post from six metres.

Shortly after, Bill Lazopoulos took a dive with Jim O'Reilly hot on his trail. Referee Mike Galt awarded a free kick to JUST and O'Reilly "cracked up", arms flailing and tongue wagging wildly. Galt booked O'Reilly and said after the match that O'Reilly was lucky not to be sent off.

The next name to go into Galt's notebook was that of Tom Karic who had blatantly bodychecked young Darren Cooper just outside the JUST area.

Man of the match: STEVE BEECH (Croydon)

Karic again figured in the action not long after half time, in a much more positive way as far as the JUST camps was concerned. In the 47th minute, Ernie Tapai's free kick was missed and mis-kicked as it travelled well inside the Croydon area. The ball fell to Karic who slid down and poked it past Keith Waterman to make it 1-0.

Dean Milesevic, who hasn't settled into his new surroundings yet, completely miscued an attempted volley in the 49th minute and two minutes later young Harbinson was nutmegged by Minh whose shot toward the near post was parried out for a corner by Waterman.

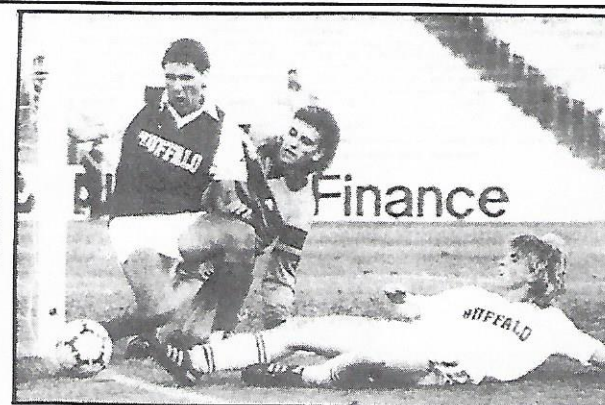
A short free kick by McDonald to Beech in the 57th minute went so close to creating the equaliser. Beech drove the ball low into the JUST area and Cooper, on a diagonal run, got to it before the advancing Vialnic. But Cooper slipped with the ball tantalisingly at his feet.

He tried twice to tap it into the unguarded goal, failing on both occasions. What a let-off for JUST.

But Zdravko Lujic should have put Croydon behind the eight ball in the 65th minute. Brack tackled substitute Mick Burak from behind, inside the area. It looked like a penalty but Galt waved play on. The ball ran to Lujic who poked it past both Waterman and the post.

The JUST caretaker coach paid for that bad miss when Croydon struck with the last kick of the game.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



● Croydon striker Darren Cooper (right) slides down but still can't tap the ball in as Footscray JUST goalkeeper Zoran Vialnic and defender Tom Karic watch it roll centimetres wide of the near post. Pictures: LES SHORROCK.

OLIVER SLIPS UP

SM-Hellas 2 Heidelberg 1

Scorers: Wright 20th, Egan 43rd (SMH); Deeley 45th (Heid)

Hellas confirmed its favouritism for this year's Buffalo Cup by beating Greek rival Heidelberg 2-1 in the most exciting match so far in the series.

The game was played at a furious pace with both sides showing great skills and creating plenty of goalmouth opportunities.

Although Danny Crainie missed a penalty in the 14th minute for Hellas, the team was fortunate when referee Chris Bambridge six minutes later judged a shot from Danny Wright which was cleared from the goalmouth by Theo Selemidis as having crossed the line.

Hellas had the better of play for the rest of the half and

eight minutes into the second term went further ahead when one of Richard Miranda's long throws put the Heidelberg defence in trouble. Current Soccerop goalie Jeff Oliver couldn't hold the ball and Charlie Egan was in the right place to snap up Hellas's second goal.

Heidelberg however put itself back in with a chance of salvaging the match two minutes later when Doug Brown knocked the ball to Peter Tsoakis who sent a searching pass through to Andy Deeley who beat the retreating Hellas defenders and shot the ball past Peter Laumets.

Hellas, however, took this revival in its stride and continued to put the Heidelberg defence under immense pressure.

Oliver had to dive to the feet of Egan to deny Hellas an opportunity in the 54th minute when Wright sent a pass through.

Crainie made amends for his penalty error with a series of beautifully weighted passes to the Hellas forwards. In the 67th minute Oliver did well to hold on to a shot powered in by the Scottish midfielder.

George Kalogeros was in lethal form from Hellas. He forced Oliver to palm out one of his corners over the bar just before half-time.

Con Pappas had a great game for Heidelberg with some strong runs out of defence but it was Selemidis who was the lynch-pin of the Heidelberg back-line. He was everywhere and could have scored in the 25th minute when he charged through the midfield and hit a long-range shot which went wide.

John Anastasiadis was involved in some good attacks by Heidelberg particularly in the first half. He was desperately unlucky that Brown couldn't connect with one of his crosses from the right wing in the 10th minute.

It was fitting that the biggest crowd seen at Olympic Park so far in the Buffalo Cup this year was treated to a gripping between match two teams which should figure strongly in the later stages of the competition.

— JOHN MACKENZIE

Man of the match: THEO SELEMIDIS (Heidelberg)



● Charlie Egan

Scoring drive at Juven

George Cross 3 B. Juventus 1

Scorers: Edwards 3rd, Durakovic 9th, 20th, Campell 69th (GC); Vesnaver 50th (BJ)

For all its undoubted class, Juventus's inability to convert opportunities has cost it dearly in this Buffalo Gold Cup campaign.

Basically Juventus had more of the play but George Cross took its chances better. However, if Len McKendry can sort out his team's problems in the scoring department he has reason to be optimistic about the coming season.

One goal down after only three minutes, Juve clawed its way back into the game and played into some stirring football in the second half.

George Cross started the game in lethal form.

It was Cross's left-back Chris Taylor who floated a free-kick into the area only three minutes into the game. Noel Mitten was there to knock the ball on to Andy Edwards who turned and fired it past Juve goalie Pat Marrama to give George Cross the start it had been wanting.

Juventus could have scored 10 minutes later when George Cross goalkeeper Sean Keogh did well to parry a shot by Scott Patterson but Andrew Zinni, who was following up, was unable to reach the rebound.

Undaunted, George Cross continued to move forward. Don MacLaren found a gap on the edge of the penalty area but his fierce shot was way off target.

Tragedy struck for Juventus in the 26th minute when Cross's Carl Gilder laid off a ball to Edwards who flicked it to John Markovski. He then went on a glorious run down the left wing. Markovski's centre came in low and hard and in attempting to cut it out, Juve's central defender Mehmet Durakovic deflected the ball into his own net.

A few minutes later Hennessy and Colin Quigley clashed in a Thai boxing contest in centrefield. Hennessy was on the ground with Quigley standing over him. Both players were kicking like mules. No bookings eventuated.

Then came the goal Gully deserved.

Scott Fraser made a superb break down the right. He drove the ball across the face of goal. It was too far in front of Cumming but not so Ward who smacked it home in off the underside of the bar.

Gully substitute David Deakin crossed from the right in the 60th minute and Ward shot only to have his attempt magnificently smothered by McKinlay. Cumming latched onto the rebound and struck it into the stranded Box Hill goal.

But Hennessy was on the line to boot it back into McKinlay's arms.

Would you believe that McKinlay then threw the ball to a defender who was robbed by Cumming who then rounded McKinlay and struck the ball into the unguarded goal to make it 2-0.

No? Well, that's exactly what happened.

I'm sure George Murray couldn't believe it either.

— JOHN MACKENZIE

— JOHN MACKENZIE

— JOHN MACKENZIE

— JOHN MACKENZIE

— JOHN MACKENZIE

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h games so far,
cor writers who pick the
e are the votes for this
na (MC), Talajic (MC); 1
(GG); 1 — Burton (BH),
— Minh (JUST); 1 — M.
GC); 1 — Vesnaver (BJ),
van Egmond (PM); 2 —
is (HA); 2 — — Crainie
3.5 — Marth (GC), 3 —
A. Karić (JUST), Kralja-
B).



● Scott Patterson of Juventus crashes into Andrew Marth of George Cross last weekend but Marth had the last laugh — George Cross won 3-1. Pictures: LES SHORROCK.

Bought tus

penalty area for Zinni to run on to but his shot spectacularly was fended over the bar by Keogh.
It was defender David Vesnaver who got Juve's goal in the 50th minute. The ball fell to him just outside the penalty area and he drilled it home with a stunning volley.
Vesnaver continued to look dangerous for Juventus as did Grbac but it was George Cross substitute John Campbell, who had the final word when just a minute from full-time he blasted home a shot from the edge of Juventus's penalty-area to give Cross a convincing 3-1 victory.



tes with John Markovski was knocked into his own Mehmet Durakovic.

clash



Brunswick Juventus has one last chance tonight (Wednesday) at Olympic Park to salvage some respectability from this year's Buffalo Gold Cup.

Len McKendry's team will be desperate to make amends for its last two disastrous results. The team's stylish touches have come to nothing and lapses in concentration at the back have proven costly for the black and whites.

Tonight's game, which will kick off at about 8.30pm, will see a Juventus team pushing forward right from the start and that should spell trouble for Tony Vrzina's St Albans Dinamo.

Dinamo was unlucky last week to concede a penalty within the first eight minutes and be two down with only 11 minutes gone. However, the team hung on for the remaining hour of the game denying Makedonia any further opportunities.

That sort of determination will stand Dinamo in good stead for this coming season but it won't be enough to keep Juve's hungry forward-line at bay and the team will be further bolstered by the return of Joe Palatides after suspension.

Rob Kraljic and the Dinamo defence will be stretched to the limit against the likes of

By JOHN MANGAN

Andrew Zinni, Sean Lane, Scott Patterson and Palatides and Juventus also hoped to sign Luciano Fabrizio in time for this match.

Former Socceroo John Venzdoorn has served his suspension but he will not be available for Juve until he returns from holiday.

Alex Dick, last year's Victorian Rothmans medal winner, has come to terms with club officials at Frankston Pines following the election of a new committee.

The dispute has kept Dick out of the team for both Pines' games so far in the Buffalo Cup but his return will be vital in Pines' match against Preston Makedonia on Saturday night.

With Mick McGorian injured, Dick will be teaming up in attack with Richie Armstrong and they will be pulling out all the stops in an effort to reverse the club's ailing fortunes.

The new committee at Pines, headed by David Bonner, has convinced most of last year's players to stay with the club this year and possibly midfielder Jimmy Ross and Stan Webster will be the only two to leave.

Pines have at times looked dangerous on their last two outings and if the new stability behind the scenes can be reflected on the field they should be stiff competition for Makedonia which last week showed impressive form against Dinamo.

It is however a game that Makedonia should win. While

to date the team has failed to inspire, coach Bill Murray has shown that he has an organised and capable outfit and it should be able to contain the revitalised Pines line-up.

Makedonia was further strengthened this week by the appointment of Ernie Merrick as assistant coach. Merrick holds a level three coaching badge and a sports medicine degree. He played with Frankston City and Devon before taking up coaching and was assistant to Danny McMinimiee at Pines last year.

Green Gully goes into tonight's game against fellow State League team Croydon strengthened by the addition of Scot Joe O'Donnell to the midfield.

Last season O'Donnell was captaining Stranraer in the Scottish Second Division. He came to Australia on a working holiday last year and is now seeking a permanent visa. O'Donnell first came to the attention of Green Gully coach Gus Macleod when he played for the Scottish team in last year's Qantas World Cup.

To further add to his squad, Macleod is trying to sign Lou Theodosopoulos from Melbourne-Hungary. Theodosopoulos was previously training with Brian Garvey down at South Melbourne Hellas and has a \$2,000 maximum transfer fee.

Box Hill still smarting from a 0-2 defeat at the hands of Green Gully, has little to look forward to in its game against South Melbourne Hellas on Friday night.

Danny Wright and Charlie Egan are razor-sharp up front

and will both be eager to add to their goal tallies. If Danny Crainie continues to assist them with his pin-point passing there is no reason why they shouldn't take this game out of the reach of Box Hill.

The later game on Friday night is between the two teams at the top of Group A, Melbourne Croatia and George Cross.

Croatia has yet to drop a point in this tournament but it could have finally met its match in George Cross. Croatia boasts the Buffalo Gold Cup's top scorer at the moment — Paul Lewis — and Mark Talajic and Robbie Dunn are also playing well but George Cross showed last weekend against Juventus that it fears no-one.

In spite of being kept in check by Hellas last Saturday night the Heidelberg team looked pretty capable and should be more than a handful for Footscray JUST this Saturday night.

JUST is getting its house back in order with the return of coach Dragoslav Sekularac taking over from caretaker Zdravko Lujic. After the humiliation of losing badly to Hellas, Lujic did well to pick the team up for last week's game against Croydon — a game it was unlucky not to win.

However, with Laurie McKinna last able to make his Heidelberg debut, Theo Selemitsis, who is in brilliant form at the moment, and his team should be able to get the better of JUST and press Green Gully for second place on the Group B table.

Van Egmond superb

P. Makedonia 2 St A. Dinamo 0

Scorers: Cole penalty 8th, van Egmond 11th.

Nick van Egmond is grabbing his chance to win a place in the Makedonia starting line-up with both hands. Actually, with both feet, for that's the part of this young midfielder's anatomy that possesses some extraordinary skills.

When Makedonia coach Bill Murray assembles his full squad, van Egmond will be one of seven players vying for four midfield berths. The others are former Vardar and Dinamo Vinkovci player Zoran Tasevski, 29, who is expected to arrive in Australia within a fortnight, Ron Campbell, Graham Heys, George Petrov, Steve Gojevic and George Slavkas. Ian Roohouse currently is in the Makedonia midfield but essentially he's a fullback.

That's why he hasn't been added to that burgeoning list. Gojevic is playing up front with Gary Cole. That's until Steve Smith is fully fit and the UK striker Makedonia is trying to sign finally sets foot on Australian soil.

Makedonia has been in touch with a Scottish club and an English club. Negotiations are at a preliminary stage but Makedonia has been led to believe that strikers from these clubs could become available shortly. If so, it then will try and agree terms with one of them. Smith had knee problems last year and his build-up to the 1987 season is being carefully

Man of the match: NICK VAN EGMOND (P. Makedonia)



● Nick van Egmond

planned. Campbell still is recovering from an ankle operation and is at least a couple of weeks away from being available. Heys returns from holiday this week, while young Petrov suffered a bruised ankle against George Cross in Makedonia's opening Buffalo Cup match.

Their absence has left a gap in the side for van Egmond but if he keeps playing the way he played against St Albans Dinamo last weekend he'll keep his spot.

The game was over in 11 minutes. That's how long it took Makedonia to open up a two-goal break.

Cole was fouled inside the area in the 8th minute and converted the resultant penalty and three minutes later Gojevic's corner from the right was headed on by Ian Dobson and knocked in by a sliding van Egmond from four metres just before the corner, van Egmond had combined superbly with Slavkas on the right in a move which ended with fierce Slavkas drive being punched out by Dinamo goalie Mate Grgic.

Gojevic hit the deck after being struck in the face shortly after. Play continued and Goran Runje was hacked down on the right wing. Strangely, referee Barry

Grant allowed play to still continue and Phil Traianedes kicked the ball over the sideline to enable Gojevic to be treated. Gojevic recovered but the free kick that so clearly should have been awarded to Runje was long forgotten.

Two minutes into time added in the first half, Runje broke down the left. He steadied before sending over an inch-perfect cross. Branko Culina, completely unmarked, headed wide.

The second half was uneventful as far as goalmouth incidents were concerned but van Egmond continued to impress, as did Slavkas, who is just 16.

Everyone keeps talking about the Trimbolis, Markovskis and Talajics of the Victorian scene and justifiably so, but there might come a day when they're talking about George Slavkas too.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

PINES FELLED

Melb. Croatia 2 Frank Pines 0

Scorers: Lemeza 48th, 66th.

A Pines side reduced to 10 men limped from the field last Wednesday night with two players injured and its hopes of making an impression on the 1987 Buffalo Gold Cup severely dashed.

Two incidents only minutes apart saw first Pines' striker Mick McGorian fall in the penalty area and then midfielder Douglas Hodgson downed at the other end of the pitch on Pines' left flank.

The injuries came at a time when Pines were trying desperately to stage a revival after conceding a goal in the 48th minute when Croatia striker Paul Lewis darted in from the right and slammed a shot past Pines' goal keeper Dennis Boland.

Croatia showed no mercy though and mounted its most consistent onslaught on the Pines goal for the game, the attack bearing fruit when that man Lewis was again on hand in the 66th minute to head

Man of the match: MARK TALAJIC (Melb. Croatia)

home a shot from substitute Anton Lemeza whose delicate chip beat Boland and rebounded off the crossbar.

Croatia's strength in Wednesday's game though was in midfield and defence. Victor Cristaldo, filling in for injured Jim MacLean, was doing some constructive things in midfield and providing capable support for Mark Talajic who was in great form.

As well as setting up chances for Lemeza in the 50th minute and putting Cristaldo through two minutes before full-time, he was also dangerous with his long throws into the penalty area.

Pines didn't let Croatia have it all its own way though. While Croatia had the better of the first 10 minutes of the game, once the Pines settled

down they were able to put together some threatening attacks.

Craig Miller was in good form on the left side for Pines with some jinking runs and turns that left his markers stranded. In the 13th minute Jimmy Ross went on a spectacular run that took the width of the field but he just couldn't find a gap to release the ball to his twin strikers Richie Armstrong and McGorian.

Pines were unlucky not to score five minutes into the second half when McGorian broke through. Croatia goalkeeper Mirko Runje rushed out of his area to thwart McGorian and deflected the ball with his hands. Referee Sam Zoumas played the advantage as the ball fell to Miller's feet and he played it into the goalmouth. Armstrong hammered it from close-range but Croatia's George Hannah was in the way.

The result leaves Croatia as clear leader in Group B with two wins from two games. Danny McMinimiee's Pines team on the other hand has only one point and has yet to score.

— JOHN MANGAN

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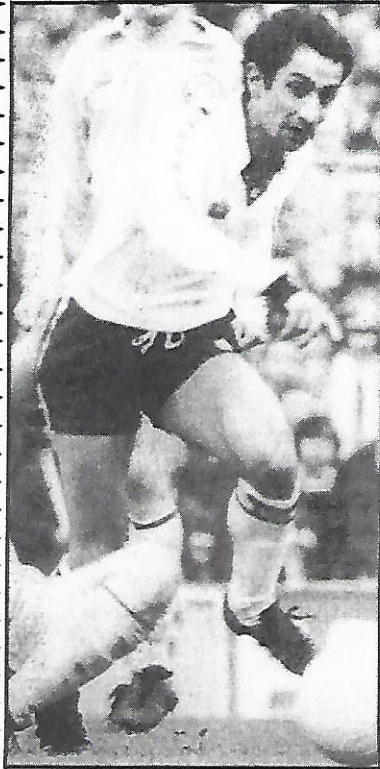
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Cherry and Mullery get the boot



● Ossi Ardiles: "I'll play for as long as I can. I'll play till I fall down."

Ossie still a battler

Ossi Ardiles's one-time dapper black hair may have streaks of grey taking over, his ageing limbs ache that little bit more and take longer to recover from battle than they used to. But as long as Argentina sits on top of the world soccer tree, Ardiles won't quit. He is struggling to maintain a regular spot in the Tottenham midfield but that doesn't bother him.

"I'll play for as long as I can," said the 34-year-old. "I'll play till I fall down. I'll play until I don't enjoy it anymore."

"I have no plans to retire. I know I am approaching the end of my playing days but I will go on and I'll decide exactly what to do at the end of this season."

Ardiles, the brilliant fulcrum of Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning side, is currently a free agent.

His renewed zest for the game following a string of injuries has impressed Tottenham manager David Pleat and led to several enquiries. So far, they have been resisted.

"Ardiles is an exceptional fellow," said Pleat. "He is tremendously fit and very skillful and full of ability. He is a big influence on younger players. But I don't know what we shall do come the end of the season."

Ardiles, while happy to reflect on a career that has mixed triumph and sadness on both sides of the Atlantic, prefers to think positively of the future.

"I have not missed a match or a training session this season. I am fit and I think I am doing well to compete for a place alongside all the international players at Tottenham," he said. Modesty sits easily with Ardiles who added an English FA Cup winner's medal to his collection of international honours in 1981.

Asked to discuss the greatest players he has seen in his career, he refused to consider himself, picking his friend and compatriot, Diego Maradona ahead of Pele, Johan Cruyff and Franz Beckenbauer.

Ardiles thinks that Maradona is the greatest he has seen, wielding more influence on a World Cup-winning side than any previous player.

The two chat regularly on the telephone, discussing the game for which they share a typical Argentine passion. Ardiles believes Maradona may move to England, probably to Tottenham, when his current contract with Napoli expires in 1988.

If such a move took place, the frail-looking man with the looks of a tango dancer and mind of a lawyer would be Maradona's perfect adviser.

Ardiles has maintained a deep attachment to Tottenham since first joining the club, together with fellow Argentine international and close friend Ricardo Villa, in 1978.

The pair had been room-mates during Argentina's World Cup campaign and both had shared an ambition to play in Europe — but not, as Ardiles freely admits, England.

"I wanted to go to Europe. Like all footballers in Argentina, we always believed we were the best in the world, but until 1978 we never had anything to show for it. But, to tell you the truth, I did not think about England. I expected to go to France or Spain," he said.

Italy would have been at the top of Ardiles' list if the Italian borders had not been closed to soccer imports at that time.

His plans changed when he met then-Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw at a Buenos Aires hotel.

"We went together — Ricky and I — and met a quiet man who talked to us. He put everything on the table. It was the first real offer. So we decided to go. I knew nothing about England."

Burkinshaw and Argentina's World Cup manager Cesar Luis Menotti were to be the major influences on Ardiles' career.

"Menotti did something very important — he made us believe in ourselves. He said we would win the World Cup and we did."

One of Ardiles' regrets in a career that has been taken him from Huracan to Tottenham, then to Paris Saint Germain after the Malvinas conflict and back again to Tottenham in 1983, is the failure of Argentina's 1982 World Cup squad in Spain.

"I think that was the best team out of the last three. In 1978, we were at home and had sheer energy and the crowd behind us. In Mexico, we had Maradona and progressed through the tournament," he said.

"In Spain, though, we had the best of the two, but we could not do it. I don't really know why."

Ardiles, who lost a relative in the Malvinas conflict and said at one point that he would never return to Britain, joined Paris Saint Germain on loan.

He loved Paris, but fell out of love with football. His family felt homesick — for England!

"It was the worst part of my career," he said. "I did not enjoy it. My heart felt it should be in Tottenham and I was glad when Keith persuaded me to come back again."

Just as happy to be home again were his family. His sons Pablo and Federico are football-mad like their father — but Pablo supports Liverpool and Federico supports Everton.

● Malmö has won the Swedish championship for the 13th time. It defeated Stockholm 5-3 on aggregate in the two-leg Grand Final.

● Steaua Bucharest and Dynamo Kiev will contest the European Super Cup in Monte Carlo on February 24.

● Ian Porterfield succeeded Alex Ferguson at Scottish Premier Division club Aberdeen. Porterfield's major claim to fame remains the goal which gave Sunderland a sensational victory over red hot favorites Leeds United in the 1973 FA Cup Final. Before moving to Aberdeen, he managed English clubs Rotherham United and Sheffield United.

● Toulouse striker Eric Belus has been suspended for seven European competition games by UEFA after being sent off Spartak Moscow in a UEFA Cup game.

● John Adshead, who guided New Zealand to the 1982 World Cup finals, has been appointed coach of the Kiwi women's team.

● Dynamo Kiev has added the Soviet league championship to its European Cup Winners' Cup crown after finishing equal with Dynamo Moscow (which it beat 2-0 in the final game of the season) at the top of the table, but was awarded the title by the Soviet federation in the belief that it is the best equipped to compete in next season's European Champions' Cup!



● Al Ahly of Egypt is the African Cup Winners' Cup holder for the third successive year. It defeated AS Sogara (Gabon) 3-2 on aggregate in the final.

● Stewart Robson, who to date has been the most successful member of the England squad in Australia for the 1981 Coca-Cola Cup finals, was the subject of a \$1,400,000 transfer when moving from Arsenal to West Ham United.

● Months of speculation ended when Eire international striker John Aldridge joined Liverpool from Oxford United in a \$1,500,000 transfer.

● Penarol, which withdrew from the Uruguayan League last year because of severe financial problems, has won the First Division championship. It defeated arch-rival Nacional in a play-off which went to penalties after both teams failed to score over 120 minutes.

● Jose Torres, who guided Portugal during its eventful 1986 World Cup campaign, has been appointed coach of Boavista.

● Spanish First Division side Osasuna has signed Eire international striker Michael Robinson from Queen's Park Rangers.

● Brazil's World Cup striker Walter Casagrande is the latest South American star to move to Europe, having joined Porto from Corinthians.

● The Fiji Football Association's assistant secretary, David Matthews, described as "a joke" Rudi Gutendorf's application for the post of FFA Technical Director (in essence, the national team's assistant coach). Gutendorf, who coached Fiji briefly in 1983, sought \$1,500 per month, a car, a house and two return tickets to Frankfurt from the financially troubled association.

● Igor Belanov became the third Soviet winner of the European Footballer of the Year award when topping the poll for the 1986 honor. Gary Lineker (England) and Emilio Butragueno (Spain) finished second and third respectively.

● Ladislav Kubala has resigned after a brief stint as coach of Real Murcia, despite having lifted it from the bottom of the Spanish First Division. The veteran Hungarian coach cited continual disagreement with Murcia's president as the reason for his resignation.

● Portuguese club Sporting Lisbon has signed Dutch striker Peter Houtman from Groningen.

● Legendary Uruguayan striker Fernando Morena has been appointed of River Plate (Montevideo).

● Mario Velarde has succeeded Europe-bound Veliho Mulinevic as Mexican national team coach.

● Jair Pereira, coach of Brazil's World Youth Cup winning sides of 1983 and 1985, has been promoted to senior national team coach.

● Sol de America, coached by Ferenc Puskas, has won the Paraguayan championship for the first time.

● Two former England internationals, Trevor Cherry and Alan Mullery, recently were sacked as managers of Bradford City and Brighton respectively.

● Spanish First Division club Real Murcia named former Hungarian international Antal Dunai as its coach. He succeeds compatriot Ladislav Kubala.

● Evaristo, the Brazilian coach who guided Qatar to the Coca Cola Cup Final in Sydney six years ago, has been dismissed by the Qatari federation after a string of poor results.

● Argentina won the inaugural Pele Cup for national selections of veteran (over 40 years of age) players. It defeated Brazil 1-0 in the final at Sao Paulo before a 60,000 crowd.

● A considerable number of former National League players are continuing their careers with semi-professional clubs in England. Among them are Elwyn Roberts (ex-APIA: Corby Town; Neil Banfield (ex-Blacktown City); Bath City; David Vaughan (ex-Newcastle KB United); Buxton Town; Kevin Keelan (ex-Newcastle KB United); Buxton Town; Dave Hoyland (ex-Canberra City); Gainsborough Trinity; Mick Fennoughy (ex-St George Budapest); Matlock Town; and Maurice Gormley (ex-St George Budapest); South Bank.

● Former Brisbane City striker John McVeigh has moved down a division of the Scottish League, having been transferred from Premier Division side Hamilton Academicals to Kilmarnock of Division One.

● After stating that he would never again be available for Scotland at the end of last year's World Cup finals, Glasgow Rangers player-manager Graeme Souness has been persuaded to change his mind. Souness was included in the Scottish squad for the game against Eire on February 18.

● The death has occurred, at the age of 28 through lung cancer, of former Eire international Austin Hayes. He won an English League Cup runner-up medal in 1979 with



● Cesar Luis Menotti — former Argentina coach now hoping to revitalise the ailing Boca Juniors

Southampton and also served Millwall and Northampton Town.

● Graham Roberts became the third English international to Glasgow Rangers' books when he moved to the Scottish Premier Division club from Tottenham Hotspur in a \$900,000 transfer.

● Goalkeeper Borislav Mikhailov is the 1986 Bulgarian Footballer of the year. He was banned "for life" in 1985, after being involved in a brawl which erupted at the end of that year's Bulgarian Cup Final, but had his punishment lifted prior to the 1986 World Cup finals.

● Air New Zealand has replaced Rothmans as the major sponsor of New Zealand's National League.

● Favorite Zamalek of Egypt regained the African Champions' Cup, but needed a penalty shoot-out to overcome Ivory Coast's African Cup Final, but had his punishment lifted prior to the 1986 World Cup finals.

● River Plate's 1-0 victory over Steaua Bucharest in the Toyota Cup game in Tokyo in December enabled it to become the fifth Argentine club to crown World Cup champion.

● Steve Hodge, one of the

outstanding successes of England's 1986 World Cup campaign, has moved from Aston Villa to Tottenham Hotspur in a \$1,200,000 transfer.

● Cesar Luis Menotti, who guided Argentina to its 1978 World Cup triumph, has joined Boca Juniors as chief coach. Boca, reputedly Argentina's most popular club, is enduring one of the leanest periods in its history.

● Defender Steve Clarke has moved from Scottish club St Mirren to English First Division side Chelsea in a \$800,000 transfer.

● Scottish right winger Ted McMinn has followed his former manager Jock Wallace from Glasgow Rangers to Seville after the Spanish First Division club agreed to a transfer fee of \$400,000.

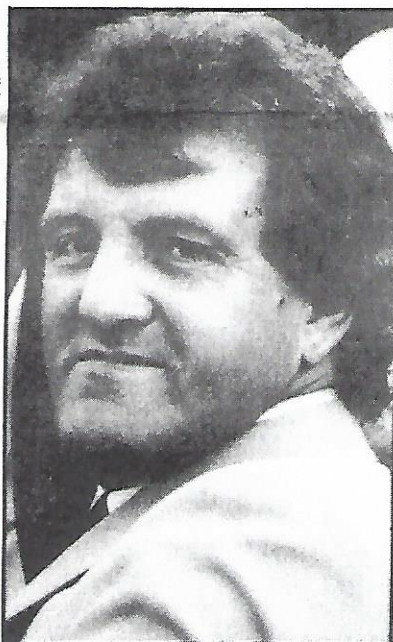
● Belgium's World Cup captain Jan Ceulemans has been presented with a golden shoe to mark his being named his country's Footballer of the Year for the third time.

● Brisbane-born Karen

Grega, the spectacularly successful commercial manager of high flying Scottish First Division club Dunfermline, Athletic, was recently the subject of a documentary feature on the BBC's World Service.



● Jan Ceulemans — Belgium's captain and runner-up for the third time



● John Adshead — former Kiwi coach now in charge of New Zealand's women's team

SWEDEN SAYS BRITISH ARE MAD!

Sweden's national team doctor believes that players in Britain risked serious injury by braving the winter weather wearing only shorts and light cotton strips.

Lasse Peterson said the idea of wearing so little during the freezing blasts of the British winter was complete madness, and inevitably led to increased muscle, joint and cartilage strain.

"I don't understand how they can play football at all in these temperatures. To do it without covering large areas of the body is madness," said Peterson.

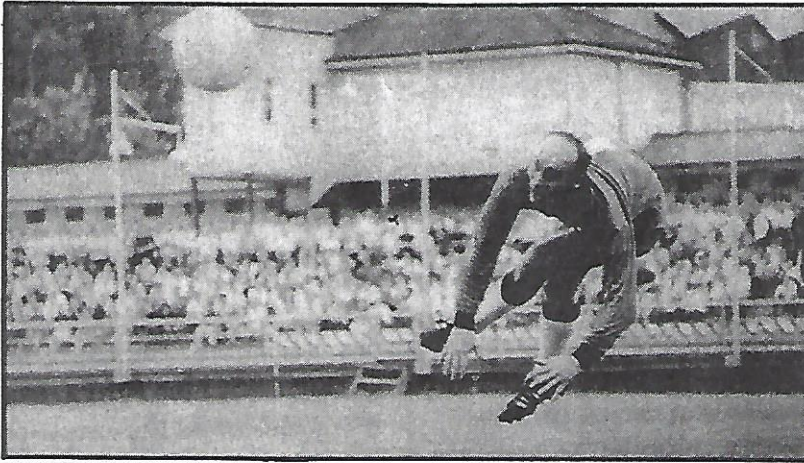
He said that no matter how much the players warmed up before a match, muscles would become chilled and therefore more easily injured after only a short spell on the field.

He recommended that players start wearing thicker, long-sleeved strips and some kind of protection over or under their shorts.

The Arctic Swedish winter does not present the same problems for Peterson's players. Soccer in Scandinavia is played over the summer season.

But England and Scotland alone among major North European soccer playing countries persist in playing all through the winter.

BLASTS FROM THE PAST



● They called him "The Cat". Willie Schroff played in goal for Czechoslovakia in the 1964 World Cup Final in Chile against Brazil. The Czechs lost and, even today, historians place most of the blame on Schroff's shoulders. Schroff was the complete showman, and he wowed Australian audiences with his displays for Slavia in the late 1960s.



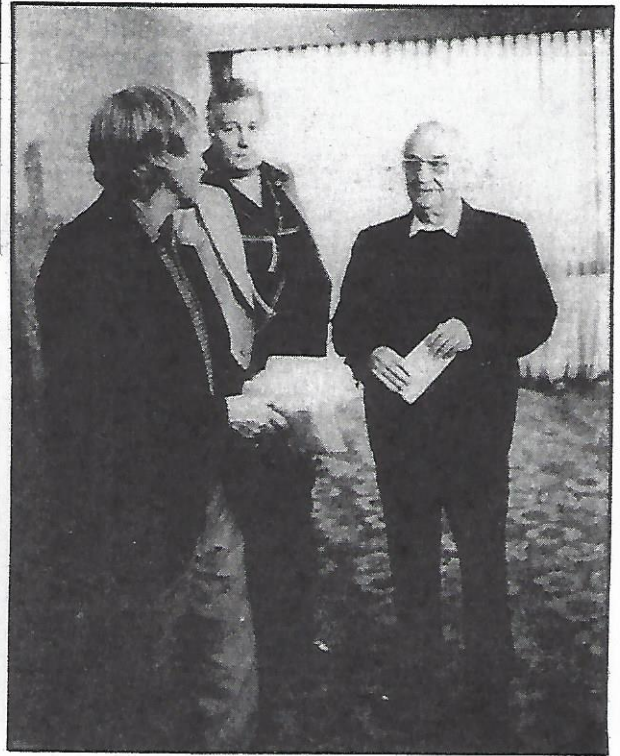
● Manfred Schaefer, in action for St George Budapest. Schaefer made 73 Socceroo appearances and was Australia's stopper during the 1974 World Cup Finals in Germany. Later, he guided Sydney Olympic to success in the 1983 and 1985 National Cup competitions and the 1984 Northern Division championship.



● Fil Bottalico, pictured with the 1966 Australia Cup after APIA's 2-0 victory over Sydney Hakoah. Bottalico played in his native Italy before joining APIA and playing in the most successful side in the club's history. Bottalico coached APIA when his playing days were over.



● Archie Campbell was one of the stars of the George Cross team during the club's magnificent spell in the 1960s. The flying winger, imported from Scotland, also played for Victoria. Campbell went on to coach George Cross and remains one of the greatest names in that club's impressive history.



● An historic picture of a turbulent time in Australian soccer. Rudi Gutendorf (left) has just been sacked as national coach. He's pictured with ASF president, Sir Arthur George, and Peter McCann, then chairman of the ASF's World Cup committee. Gutendorf was appointed national coach in the late 1970s. His reign remains one of the most controversial and colorful spells in national team history. Gutendorf used over 60 players during his term in an attempt to come up with a successful combination. After his dismissal he took over the managership of a Bundesliga club in his native West Germany. Since then, he's taken up appointments in Japan, Nepal and Fiji. Well, we think he took up the appointment in Fiji, but that's yet to be confirmed.



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- ROUND TWO**
Sunday, April 12: Oakleigh United v North Melbourne, Old Scotch v Mazonod College, Keilor United v Anstey United, Yarra United v Concorde, Intercity v East Richmond, RMIT v Upfield, Old Paradians v Camberwell Grammar.
- ROUND THREE**
Sunday, April 26: Camberwell Grammar v Upfield, East Richmond v Old Paradians, Concorde v Intercity, Anstey United v Yarra United, Mazonod College v Keilor United, North Melbourne v Old Scotch, Oakleigh United v RMIT.
- ROUND FOUR**
Sunday, May 3: Old Scotch v Oakleigh United, Keilor United v North Melbourne, Yarra United v Mazonod College, Intercity v Anstey United, RMIT v Camberwell Grammar, Old Paradians v Concorde, Upfield v East Richmond.
- ROUND FIVE**
Sunday, May 16: East Richmond v Camberwell Grammar, Concorde v Upfield, Anstey United v Old Paradians, Mazonod College v Intercity, North Melbourne v Yarra United, Oakleigh United v Keilor United, Old Scotch v RMIT.
- ROUND SIX**
Sunday, May 17: Keilor United v Old Scotch, Yarra United v Oakleigh United, Intercity v North Melbourne, RMIT v East Richmond, Old Paradians v Mazonod College, Upfield v Anstey United, Camberwell Grammar v Concorde.
- ROUND SEVEN**
Sunday, May 24: Concorde v East Richmond, Anstey United v Camberwell Grammar, Mazonod College v Upfield, North Melbourne v Old Paradians, Oakleigh United v Intercity, Old Scotch v Yarra United, Keilor United v RMIT.
- ROUND EIGHT**
Sunday, May 31: Yarra United v Keilor United, Intercity v Old Scotch, RMIT v Concorde, Old Paradians v Oakleigh United, Upfield v North Melbourne, Camberwell Grammar v Mazonod College, East Richmond v Anstey United.
- ROUND NINE**
Sunday, June 7: Anstey United v Concorde, Mazonod College v East Richmond, North Melbourne v Camberwell Grammar, Oakleigh United v Upfield, Old Scotch v Old Paradians, Keilor United v Intercity, Yarra United v RMIT.
- ROUND TEN**
Sunday, June 14: Intercity v Yarra United, RMIT v Anstey United, Old Paradians v Keilor United, Upfield v Old Scotch, Camberwell Grammar v Oakleigh United, East Richmond v North Melbourne, Concorde v Mazonod College.
- ROUND ELEVEN**
Sunday, June 21: Mazonod College v Anstey United, North Melbourne v Concorde, Oakleigh United v East Richmond, Old Scotch v Camberwell Grammar, Keilor United v Upfield, Yarra United v Old Paradians, Intercity v RMIT.
- ROUND TWELVE**
Sunday, June 28: RMIT v Mazonod College, Old Paradians v Intercity, Upfield v Yarra United, Camberwell Grammar v Keilor United, East Richmond v Old Scotch, Concorde v Oakleigh United, Anstey United v North Melbourne.
- ROUND THIRTEEN**
Sunday, July 5: North Melbourne v Mazonod College, Oakleigh United v Anstey United, Old Scotch v Concorde, Keilor United v East Richmond, Yarra United v Camberwell Grammar, Intercity v Upfield, RMIT v Old Paradians.
- ROUND FOURTEEN**
Sunday, July 12: Old Paradians v Upfield, Intercity v Camberwell Grammar, Yarra United v East Richmond, Keilor United v Concorde, Old Scotch v Anstey United, Oakleigh United v Mazonod College, RMIT v North Melbourne.
- ROUND FIFTEEN**
Sunday, July 19: North Melbourne v Oakleigh United, Mazonod College v Old Scotch, Anstey United v Keilor United, Concorde v Yarra United, East Richmond v Intercity, Upfield v RMIT, Camberwell Grammar v Old Paradians.
- ROUND SIXTEEN**
Sunday, July 26: Upfield v Camberwell Grammar, Old Paradians v East Richmond, Intercity v Concorde, Yarra United v Anstey United, Keilor United v Mazonod College, Old Scotch v North Melbourne, RMIT v Oakleigh United.
- ROUND SEVENTEEN**
Sunday, August 2: Oakleigh United v Old Scotch, North Melbourne v Keilor United, Mazonod College v Yarra United, Anstey United v Intercity, Camberwell Grammar v RMIT, Concorde v Old Paradians, East Richmond v Upfield.
- ROUND EIGHTEEN**
Sunday, August 9: Camberwell Grammar v East Richmond, Upfield v Concorde, Old Paradians v Anstey United, Intercity v Mazonod College, Yarra United v North Melbourne, Keilor United v Oakleigh United, RMIT v Old Scotch.
- ROUND NINETEEN**
Sunday, August 16: Old Scotch v Keilor United, Oakleigh United v Yarra United, North Melbourne v Intercity, East Richmond v RMIT, Mazonod College v Old Paradians, Anstey United v Upfield, Concorde v Camberwell Grammar.
- ROUND TWENTY**
Sunday, August 23: East Richmond v Concorde, Camberwell Grammar v Anstey United, Upfield v Mazonod College, Old Paradians v North Melbourne, Intercity v Oakleigh United, Yarra United v Old Scotch, RMIT v Keilor United.
- ROUND TWENTY-ONE**
Sunday, August 30: Keilor United v Yarra United, Old Scotch v Intercity, Concorde v RMIT, Oakleigh United v Old Paradians, North Melbourne v Upfield, Mazonod College v Camberwell Grammar, Anstey United v East Richmond.
- ROUND TWENTY-TWO**
Sunday, September 6: Concorde v Anstey United, East Richmond v Mazonod College, Camberwell Grammar v North Melbourne, Upfield v Oakleigh United, Old Paradians v Old Scotch, Intercity v Keilor United, RMIT v Yarra United.
- ROUND TWENTY-THREE**
Sunday, September 13: Yarra United v Intercity, Anstey United v RMIT, Keilor United v Old Paradians, Old Scotch v Upfield, Oakleigh United v Camberwell Grammar, North Melbourne v East Richmond, Mazonod College v Concorde.
- ROUND TWENTY-FOUR**
Sunday, September 20: Anstey United v Mazonod College, Concorde v North Melbourne, East Richmond v Oakleigh United, Camberwell Grammar v Old Scotch, Upfield v Keilor United, Old Paradians v Yarra United, RMIT v Intercity.
- ROUND TWENTY-FIVE**
Sunday, September 27: Mazonod College v RMIT, Intercity v Old Paradians, Yarra United v Upfield, Keilor United v Camberwell Grammar, Old Scotch v East Richmond, Oakleigh United v Concorde, North Melbourne v Anstey United.
- ROUND TWENTY-SIX**
Sunday, October 4: Mazonod College v North Melbourne, Anstey United v Oakleigh United, Concorde v Old Scotch, East Richmond v Keilor United, Camberwell Grammar v Yarra United, Upfield v Intercity, Old Paradians v RMIT.



Victorian round-up with JOHN MANGAN

Peter Ollerton is going to spearhead Knox City's challenge for the 1987 Victorian League First Division championship.

New coach Mike Sinclair, who was with Fernree Gully last year, is confident of at least going close to winning the title this season. As well as juring Ollerton, who last season played under Sinclair, the new Knox coach has also signed Alan Munro from Fernree Gully. Nunawading City and Doncaster Rovers, who came close to promotion last season, are the teams that Sinclair has got to match and he is counting on a blend of the experience of Ollerton, Munro and Brian Thom from Ringwood. Wilhelmina and the freshness of youngsters like 17-year-old Raphael Bakker and Adrian Rau to bring Knox success this year.

The teams who were relegated from the State League last year — Ringwood, Wilhelmina and Melbourne Hungaria — have a tough season ahead. At Ringwood coach Tim Kelly is trying to retain as much of last year's State League squad as possible but has already lost Kees Storm to Polonia. The next fortnight should see how much rebuilding is necessary as player negotiations are finalised.

Azzopardi to Bulleen?

At the other end of the scale are up-and-coming Bulleen Veneto and Essendon City Triestina who both were promoted last season from the Second Division.

Bulleen and Triestina will enjoy the advantage this season of being the division's unknown quantities. Bulleen has lost three of last year's team and this has dented hopes it had of taking the title but Alan Gentry's team is confident that it will more than hold its own at the higher level.

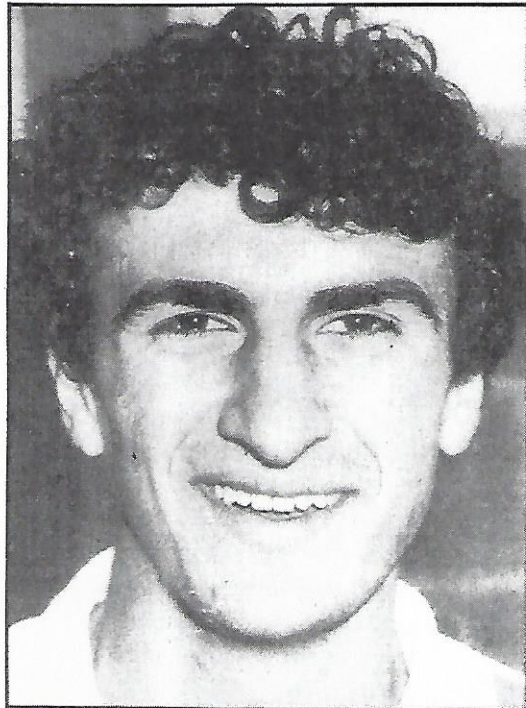
Brendan Lalic has gone, signed by State League club Polonia for \$2000, midfielder/striker Mal Anselma has retired and Bulleen's best player for the last two seasons, Andy Borzika, looks likely to be sidelined for the whole season with illness.

To fill the gaps in the team, Gentry is looking at a number of midfielders and strikers including Dave Azzopardi from Box Hill and Frank Petrika from Werribee.

Essendon City Triestina is hoping to retain all of last year's squad and strengthen it with a number of new signings from the club's junior ranks. All of last year's team are training with the club at the moment and coach Joe Wilson will be using the Fawcett pre-season tournament to select his final squad.

Toal for Sunbury

Sunbury United has signed Peter Boyle as coach. Fawcett has placed a \$2000 price tag on Boyle's head should he decide to pull on his boots for Sunbury.



Box Hill forward David Azzopardi. Bulleen coach Alan Gentry is trying to sign him.

Former George Cross and Green Gully striker Bobby Toal, who played with Northcote last year, trained with Sunbury last week.

Ex-Sunbury player Martin Catterson looks likely to return to the club and Keilor Austria winger Hugh Stewart has been training at Langara Park recently. So far Sunbury has lost John Twine and Neil Skinner from last year's first team squad. Twine's job requires him to travel to Sydney now and again. He's likely to join Doncaster Rovers. Skinner lives on the other side of Melbourne and travelling to and from training is a hassle.

Colangeli in charge

Werribee starts its First Division campaign this season without the services of Jack Bacak who has gone to St Albans Dinamo and goalie Mark Diogacchino to JUST.

Joe Colangeli has taken over as coach from Sebastian Italia and has signed former Thomastown midfielder Paul Di Berardino and stopper Ralph Barba in a \$750 deal with Albion Rovers. Colangeli has just returned from Italy where he completed a coaching course during the northern winter.

Reid's at Richmond

For Richmond this is a year of consolidation. The club has appointed a new coach, Eddy Reid, to replace Uli Pfisterer but he does not expect to finalise his squad until a few weeks before the season begins.

The club's principal aim this year is to get its new clubhouse established and then set about organising a comprehensive youth team setup. It is difficult for inner-suburban clubs to maintain youth teams as the population continues to drift to the middle and outer suburbs.

McElhinney takes over

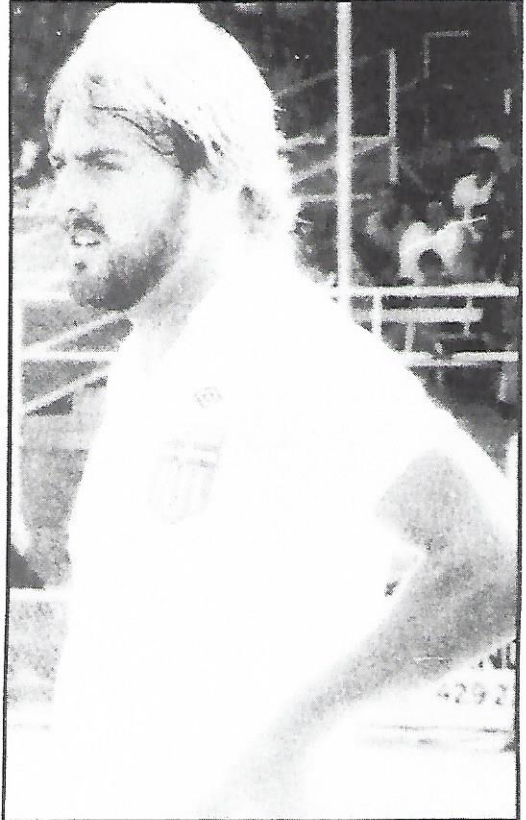
In the Victorian League Second Division, Dandenong City and North Geelong will be up there challenging for promotion this season after coming close last year.

Hugh Murney has retired from the coaching position at Prahran Celtic and last year's successful reserve coach Pat McElhinney is taking up the reins.

Pre-season training is going well at the club at the moment but McElhinney is looking for players to strengthen the midfield.

\$7000 for Barkers

Mooroobark, which was promoted last season from Third Division, has transferred sweeper Greg Brack to State League club Croynod City but otherwise has retained last year's team. The club has co-operated with the local council in a \$7000 scheme to improve



Peter Ollerton plans to spearhead Knox City's assault on the Victorian League First Division championship.

the drainage at the club's Esther Park ground.

Tony Brown the boss at Port

Having lost six or seven players during the course of last season and consequently finishing dangerously close to relegation from Third Division, Port Melbourne is looking this year to getting a settled side that will combine skill and grit.

"We won't be kicked off the park this season," Port's secretary Con Kilias promised.

Coach Tony Brown is hoping to sign a couple of ex-NSL and State League players and this should be settled in the next two weeks. Phil Diamataris is leaving the club as he wants to play in State League this season and has trained with Northcote.

The Port Melbourne Council has got behind the club this year improving the pitch, refurbishing the changing rooms and providing a portable canteen.

Horsfall wants two new players

Ferntree Gully, which last year missed out on promotion by two points, is beginning this season with a depleted team. Coach Mike Sinclair has left for First Division Knox City taking former Socceroo Peter Ollerton and defender Alan Munro with him.

Sinclair's replacement is Barry Horsfall who is looking to sign a striker and a

midfielder in time for the club's first Dockerty Cup tie this month.

Bill Gatzonis at Clarinda

Bill Gatzonis at Clarinda is in urgent need of a good midfielder, winger and defender as Clarinda goes into the new season promoted to Third Division. Gaps have been left in the team with the departure of a number of players to concentrate on their university studies.

The Geelong clubs have a strong presence in Third Division and Clarinda's fellow promoted club West Brunswick should also give opponents plenty of problems.

Now it's Diamond Valley United

With Seaford United, Pascoe Vale and Williamstown promoted, the Fourth Division returns this season to a full complement of 14 clubs. Last year the division had only 13 clubs when the Albion-Wodonga outfit, Border, withdrew on the eve of the season. Heidelberg Bundoora has changed its name to Diamond Valley United.

Williamstown missed out on promotion to Fourth Division by one point in 1985 and then last year looked like missing out again, this time on goal difference. But the amalgamation of Corio and Geelong pushed Williamstown up. For the new season, Williamstown is hoping to sign former JUST goalkeeper Mark Cedric and is also talking to Emil Petrov who is trialling with JUST at the moment.

RICOH DOCKERTY CUP DRAW

Victoria Park, Traralgon Olympians and Meko Holdings will fly the flag for their respective competitions when the first preliminary round of the 1987 Ricoh Dockerty Cup gets underway on Saturday, February 28.

Victoria Park is representing Ballarat, Traralgon Olympians is representing the Latrobe Valley and Meko Holdings is the Industrial League's flag bearer.

All games kick off at 3pm. Here is the draw.

Lalor United v SM Mordialloc, Springvale United v East Brunswick, Eltham v Holland Park, Corio-Geelong United v Diamond Valley United, Essendon City v North Geelong, Boronia v Sandringham City, Albion Rovers v Yallourn, Pascoe Vale v Williamstown, Westgate v Dandenong City, Bell Park v Clifton Hill, Karingal United v Prahran, Doveton v Traralgon Olympians, Langwarrin v Hamlyn Rangers, Coburg v Werribee, Victoria Park v Seaford United, Bulleen v Fernree Gully, Port Melbourne v Mooroolbark, Meko Holdings v Clarinda, Sunbury United v

Ringwood United, Moorabbin City v Altona Gate, Hawthorn v Rosanna. BYES: Moreland Park Rangers, Waverley City, Yarraville, Keysborough, West Brunswick.

Here is the draw for the second preliminary round of the 1987 Ricoh Dockerty Cup, to be played on Saturday, March 7.

Albion Rovers v Yallourn v Bulleen or Fernree Gully, Langwarrin or Hamlyn Rangers v Corio-Geelong United or Diamond Valley United, Coburg or Werribee v Karingal United or Prahran, Port Melbourne or Mooroolbark v Keysborough, Meko Holdings or Clarinda v Moorabbin City or Altona Gate, Bell Park or Clifton Hill v Westgate or Dandenong City, Eltham or Holland Park v Victoria Park or Seaford United, Sunbury United or Ringwood United v Hawthorn or Rosanna, Boronia or Sandringham City v Yarraville, Lalor or SM Mordialloc v Waverley City, West Brunswick v Essendon City or North Geelong, Moreland Park Rangers v Springvale United or East Brunswick, Doveton or Traralgon Olympians v Pascoe Vale or Williamstown.

TRECA SANSA PROTIV ALEXANDERA

Dok je Melbourne Croatia jednom nogom krcila u polifinale Nacnog Buffalo Kupa, dotle Preston Makedonija i specijalno JUST moraju jos dosta znojati da bi proili da bi ostali u tri na dva prva mesta u svojim grupama.

JUST mora da pobei Heidelberg Aleksandra u subotu uvece 14. februara, sto nije nemoguće, jer su "plavi" kasno poceli da treniraju i jos uvek prikupljaju svoje snage. Dosta je kriv i Dragoslav Sekularac, jer se jos nije pojavio, a sezona je pocela dok se on predomisli- jao. To je uticalo na sve igrace da neozbiljno shvate svoje obaveze prema fudbalu, publici i klubu.

Zdravko Lujic se prohvatio odgovornom posla na svoju stetu, jer je zanemario svoju kondiciju. Ipak, protiv Croydon je proradila "plava" masina iako nedostaju mnogi srafovi. Nema Nikitovic, Vukcevic i Stosica, koje, mozdna, nememo vise ni videti u Australiji. Vukcevic je hvatao vezu sa nekim klubovima u Sibiru, ali je imao loseg menadzera (ili tu maca. Tek kasnije smo saznali da je potpisao za Celik u Zenici).

I Vlada Stos c ostaje u Jugoslaviji, dok se igraju za drugoligassu Majdanpeka.

Ostao je jedino Zoran Nikitovic, ali ni on za dugo. Posle prve noce utakmice, posto ga je uprava kluba isplatiila unapred za prvu polovinu ove sezone, Nikitovic je rekao da mu je otac bolestan i zbog toga odlazi u Jugoslaviju na mesec dana. Verovatno, tteo je da se uveri da li Sekularac dolazi ili ne. Medjutim, posto su se misloili, jer je Sekularac sa sinom Markom poleteo JAT-ovim avionom iz Beograda u subotu 7. februara, Zoran ce skratiti svoj boravak u Jugoslaviji.

Pored pomenute trojice JUST je poceo novu sezonu bez Vlatka belica i Oscara Lofitica. Prvi zeli da sacuva porodicu, a drugi je tek stvar, sto je vazije od fudbala. Verovatno ce se naci neko novonajmisenje da objica ponovo na vuku "plavu" majicu, narocito posle dolaska Sekularca.

Sekularac nece doci praznih ruku. Posto se odrekao Vukcevic i Stosica, sigurno je nasao dostojnu zamenu za njih. Sekularac nema nameru da se bruka. Naprotiv, stalo mu je da njegov klub bude bolji nego prosle godine, pa je sigurno pronasao bolje igrace od Voje Vukcevic i Vlade Stosica. O tome cemo cuiti iz njegovih usta, jer ce Sekularac voditi tim protiv Heidelberg Aleksandra ili ce pomoci Zdravko Lujica, dok se ne prilagodi na klimu.

JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA

Uprava JUST-a nije spavala, dok je Sekularac bio odsutan. Prvo je, na Sekijevu proporu, skloplio ugovor sa Trevor James-om, koji treba vrlo brzo da dodje iz Engleske. Poljsan je i Dimitrije-Dean Milosevic, koga je Sekularac zapazio kad je JUST igrao u Brisbanu.

ZAGONETNI MINH TRI VO

Koliko god su navi jaeli JUST-a bili razocarani slabom igrom svo jih ljubimaca, sto je bilo odsevljenim palustastim Minh Tri Vo-om, koji je u duhu vietnamske tradicije izgarao na terenu.

Koliko je samo bio novi JUST-ov David patlo, koliko je bio tragican kada mu je polman Croydon Cityja odbranio lukav udarac iz mrtvog ugla, posto je prethodno majstorisao presao nekoliko Golijada.

Sekularac ce sigurno voleti ovog momka, koji ce se idealno uklopiti u Sekijevu koncepciju igre.

JUNIORSKA RUBRIKA

Prvi skup JUST-ovih juniora bio je vise nego uspesan, iako da ce u ovoj sezoni imati timove ispod 10, 12, 13, 14 i 15 godina. Prvi treninzi odrzace

PRVE PRIJATELSKE UTAKMICE

Prole nedelje Springvale United je odigrao prvu prijateljsku utakmicu u ovoj godini protiv Clayton Intera, a u utork Central City Crevena zvezda bila je gost Waverley City-a. Igrali su prvi timovi i rezerve. U sledecem broju "Soccer Actiona" objavićemo rezultate, sastave i izjave trenera sta ocekiju u novoj sezoni. Rano je davati prognoze, ali po jutru se dan poznaje.



Dean Milosevic

ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΩΝ ΟΜΑΔΩΝ ΜΑΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΣΗΜΕΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΕΝΑΛΤΥ

by Manos Milios

ΚΡΗΤΙΚΗ ΟΜΑΔΑ

ΠΑΡΟΝΤΗΣ Κρητική ομάδα που θα παίξει σε κατηγορία του φρασσεχνικού πρωταθλήματος. Προπονητής ανέλαβε ο πεπειραμένος Κυριάκος Αλιμάνης.

ΚΥΠΕΛΛΟ ΠΑΛΑΙΜΑΧΩΝ

ΕΥΧΕΚΙΖΕΤΑΙ το Κύπελλο των Παλαιμάχων στο γήπεδο του Νορντινάλλοκ την Κυριακή με τους εξής αγώνες:

- 12.00 π.μ. ΓΟΥΙΝΣΔΟΡ - ΓΚΑΡΠΤΕΝ ΣΙΤΥ
- 1.30 π.μ. Ο'ΑΗ - ΠΕΛΟΠΑΣ
- 3.00 π.μ. ΕΜΠΑΣΣΥ - ΝΟΡΝΤΙΝΑΛΟΚ
- 4.30 π.μ. ΚΑΡΠΙΝΤΑ - ΓΚΡΕΚ ΣΙΟΥΤ

Ετην 3η αγωνιστική η Κλαρίντα έχασε με 1-0 από το ΟΚΛΗ, το ΓΚΑΡΠΤΕΝ ΣΙΤΥ νίκησε 3-0 το Γιάραβελ και το Χόρντον έχασε από το Ρουβέρβλυ 1-0.

ΤΟ ΚΥΠΕΛΛΟ ΑΡΙΩΝ

ΕΤΟΘ βοηθητικό γήπεδο του Κλίφτον Χιλ γίνεται το τσουνόου του Αρίωνα κάθε Κυριακή με την συμμετοχή δέκα ομάδων.

ΚΟΥΥΚΙΜΕΝΟ Ν.Π.ΤΥ

ΜΕΣΑ σε μία ωραία ατμόσφαιρα έγινε στην οικία του προέδρου της Ελλάς Κρίς Κρίστοφερ το Νηπάρμεκτιον γνωριμίας. Καλεσμένοι ήταν οι παίκτες της κυανόλευκου, ο προπονητής Ιπρόλιαν Γκάρβου, το Δ.Σ. μισόβλο και οι αθλητικογράφοι.

Σε όλα τη διάρκεια της βραδιά διεκρίνε κανείς τον ενθουσιασμό των παικτών, των παραγόντων και του προπονητή οι οποίοι πιστεύουν ακράδαντα στην κατάρτηση του κυπέλλου Αρίωνα.

ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΗ ΠΡΟΠΟΝΗΤΕΣ ΤΟΥΥΤΟΥΣ

Η ΔΟΕΑ Γιάραβελ ζητεί προπονητές για τις ομάδες Τζούνιους. Οι ενδιαφερόμενοι να τηλεφωνήσουν στον πρόεδρο Τζιμ Αμανα τζόν στο 68 3084.

ΠΑΡΑΝΕΜΕΙ Ο ΓΚΙΑΤΑΕ

Ο ΤΑΛΑΝΤΟΥΧΟΣ γκολκίπερ της Ελλάς και ανακληρωματικός του Λάμετς Κόστας Γκιάτας, παραμένει στην κυανόλευκου. Συγκεκριμένα στην λίστα των υπό μεταγραφής παικτών του ΜΣΡ αναφέρονταν το δόμο του παίκτη. Παράγων της Ελλάς μου βεβαιώσε ότι δεν είχε υπογράψει το συμβόλαιο από τον τελεμασφύρακα γι' αυτό υπήρξε και αυτή η αμυνία.

ΝΕΤ ΑΛΤΟΝΑ

ΠΡΟΠΟΝΗΤΗΣ στην Νετ Αλτόνα ανέλαβε ο Βάσος Θεοχαρίδης. Όσοι παίκτες επιθυμούν να παίξουν με τον σύλλογο μπορούν να τηλεφωνήσουν στον Βαγγέλη Γιαννακούλη στο 314 0143.

ΓΚΑΡΠΤΕΝ ΣΙΤΥ

ΠΑΡΑΝΕΜΕΙΝΟΝ στο Γκάρπτεν Σίτυ οι παίκτες Αντατζίλκας, Γ. και Ν. Αναστασιδής, Κατρίς,

Βάσης, Ξανθοπούλου, Ηλίας, Σβίγγος, Καμπούρβουλος, Λαζαρίδης και Αποστολίδου. Φέτος τον Κυριακάτικο σάββαλο θα παίσει δώσουν οι Παγγώνης, Λέρης και Πισμύσης.

ΔΟΕΑ ΓΙΑΠΡΑΒΙΑ

ΕΥΧΕΚΙΖΟΝΤΑΙ οι προπονήσεις της Δόας Γιάραβελ κάθε Τρίτη και Πέμπτη. Η Δόα απέκτησε τους επιθετικούς Διονύση Δούλο, Γκίλλαν και Στρατίν.

ΤΟΥΣΕΤ

ΜΕ ΠΡΟΠΟΝΗΤΗ και παίκτη τον ΗΔΑ Τακιά-νός άρχισε τις προπονήσεις της η ΤΟΥΣΕΤ. Επίσης άρχισαν και οι προπονήσεις των Τζούνιους. Πληροφορίες στο 366 1574.

ΗΡΑΚΛΗΣ

ΠΡΟΠΟΝΗΤΗΣ για τις ομάδες Τζούνιους ζητεί ο Ηρακλής. Οι ενδιαφερόμενοι να τηλεφωνήσουν στο 317 0191.

ΚΑΛΑ ΕΥΧΕΚΙΖΟΝΤΑΙ

ΕΤΟ πρώτο τους επίσημο παιχνίδι τόσο η ΕΜΑΕ όσο και ο ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ, άρχισαν πάρα πολύ καλές εντυπώσεις. Το παιχνίδι και των δύο αντιπάλων είχε ουσία και πάνα απ' όλα δύναμη. Ουσιακά το κελσμά ήταν κάτι που το περιμέναμε σε μία τέτοια συνέντηση.

ΗΠΡΟΚΙΜΑΤΙΚΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΔΟΚΕΡΤΥ ΣΥΡ

ΕΤΙΕ Ρ8 θεβρουαρίου αρχίζουν οι προκριματικοί του Κυπέλλου Ντόκερτυ. Οι συναντήσεις για τις ελληνικές μας ομάδες είναι οι εξής: ΑΛΙΝΑΡ - ΕΡΗΝΕ ΝΟΡΝΤΙΝΑΛΟΚ ΜΠΕΑ ΠΑΡΚ - ΚΑΙΤΟΡΟΝ ΧΙΑ ΝΤΑΡΤΟΝ - ΤΡΑΠΑΛΟΚΟ ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΝΕ Ν.ΕΜΑΕ - ΚΟΥΡΟΥΑ ΠΑΡΚ ΜΕΚΟ ΚΟΑΝΤΙΓΚΕ - ΚΑΡΠΙΝΤΑ ΠΕΛΟΠΑΣ - ΡΟΞΕΛΑ Η ΔΟΕΑ ΓΙΑΠΡΑΒΙΑ θα παίξει στον Β' γύρο των προκριματικών με τον κυνητή του αγώνα Ιπρόνινα - Χέντρινγκ. Οι συναντήσεις του 1' γύρου θα γίνουν στις 7 Απριλίου.

ΝΟΛΙΟΡΕΥΟΕΑ ΣΥΝΑΝΤΗΣΗ

ΕΝΗΕΡΑ και άρα 6.00 π.μ. στη λέσχη του γηπέδου του Ηρακλή θα συναντηθούν παράγοντες και αθλητικογράφοι με την επιτροπή του Έλληνικού υπέλλου προκειμένου να βρουν μία καλύτερη φόρμουλα για την διεξαγωγή των αγώνων.

TRIMBOLI O NON TRIMBOLI?

L'incontro di Buffalo Gold Cup fra la Juventus ed il George Cross, svoltosi venerdì scorso, aveva per la maggior parte della tifoseria italiana un significato che andava molto più lontano del semplice risultato.

Nelle file della squadra maltese avrebbe probabilmente fatto una comparsa Paul Trimball, l'attuale "ragazzo d'oro" del calcio locale che aveva firmato per la squadra di Gardner dopo essere stato sull'orlo di aggregarsi alla società bianconera.

La notizia del cambiamento di rotta del dotatissimo ragazzo italiano aveva rappresentato una notevole delusione negli ambienti vicini alla Juventus. Alla fin dei conti di ragazzi come lui, e per di più italiani, non ne spuntano tutti i giorni ed era perciò più che naturale che tutti avrebbero voluto vederlo in bianconero. Inoltre era ben risaputo che il ragazzo si stava allenando con la compitiva di McKendry e che egli stesso ed i genitori preferivano la squadra italiana e avevano avanzato richieste medesime.

del nazionale giovanile e da quel poco che si è potuto vedere venerdì scorso (Paul è stato utilizzato per circa venti minuti), la risposta può essere una sola: non tessere Trimball è stato uno sbaglio madornale. Almeno di primo acchito. Il ragazzo "piu' bello dal cielo" per il George Cross e senza alcun dubbio una delle più belle realtà del calcio giovanile locale. Nato e cresciuto calcisticamente nel Brighton, Paul ha delle doti naturali, tecniche e di temperamento, che fanno di lui il classico "calciatore nato". Oltre alla generosità di madre natura, il giovane Trimball ha avuto la fortuna di crescere alla scuola di Oscar Gonzo, un tecnico italiano già trapiantato temporaneamente in Sud America, che crede ancora fermamente che il calcio sia un'arte in cui si può eccellere soltanto in virtù di ottima tecnica individuale e concessione di gioco collettivo secondo i dettami della scuola italiana e sudamericana; perciò nelle "calcioni" e "corse" furibonde, ma sapienti pennellate e giuocoso uso di spazi e smistamenti per arrivare in posizione di sferrare il tiro della porta avversaria e fa impazzire gli spettatori sugli spalti.

Paul Trimball possiede così la rara combinazione di tecnica, cervello calcistico, visione di gioco e tiro notevole da qualsiasi posizione, e, da quella che ci dice in vista di un temperamento molto bilanciato e una testa fermamente avvitata sul collo. Niente di vismo, niente facili illusioni. Mandar via un ragazzo del genere dovrebbe essere perciò un "crimine" punibile con il linciaggio dei dirigenti colpevoli. Ma potrebbe anche essere un segno di accesso di onestà a parte di questi dirigenti, una di quelle rare occasioni in cui della gente smaltizia e, almeno in apparenza, senza un briciolo di altruismo si prende il lusso di pensare al futuro del ragazzo più che alla immediata convenienza della società.

Tesserare Paul Trimball sarebbe stato un giochetto da ragazzi per il team manager Caruso, il presidente Tenuta e l'allenatore McKendry. Alla fin dei conti tutto ciò che i Trimball, padre e figlio, chiedevano era una mezza assicurazione che il ragazzo sarebbe stato incluso nella rosa della prima squadra! Facilissima da darla; e poi? Con Zini e il nuovo avanzato Sean Lane come punte azzurre e con i vari Patterson, Impossibili e Palatsidis come possibili mezzepunte, un posto in squadra per l'ottimo, ma ancora acerbo, Trimball poteva anche non essere tanto sicuro inizialmente. Stare in panchina dodici o tredici giorni, o peggio, per una settimana dopo settimana, oppure essere costretto a tappare buchi a centrocampo o addirittura in difesa (chi l'avrebbe detto che l'incantapulo sarebbe diventato terzino, per esem-

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consultarsi prima con la Juventus. Il prossimo anno, o quello successivo, tante cose potrebbero essere cambiate e Paul Trimball potrà ancora soddisfare i suoi desideri, che è la sua ambizione e dei suoi genitori: giocare nelle file della più gloriosa squadra italiana d'Australia.

Il caso di Trimball ci porta ad una considerazione molto generale, e molto dolorosa, sul calcio giovanile locale. Ragazzi naturalmente dotati come lui non sono poi tanto una rarità nelle comunità italiane, greche, jugoslave e sudamericane d'Australia.

Un girodolo di grossi nomi sta ruotando intorno alle due squadre da alcune settimane. Adesso sembra anche che il nazionale Bruno Conti, uno degli eroi di Spagna, potrebbe apparire sui lidi della città dell'Harbour Bridge. E, avvenimento non meno notevole a lungo andare, Roberto Vieri ha finalmente fatto il gran salto da giocatore di alto rango ad allenatore di una squadra bisanona, assumendo la guida tecnica dei Marconi. Almeno per ora perciò, le grosse piacevoli notizie; stanno accadendo tutte a Sydney, ma



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WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY KO 7.15

GREEN GULLY

VS

CROYDON CITY

FOLLOWED BY

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS

VS

ST ALBANS DINAMO

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 13 KO 7.15

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

VS

BOX HILL

FOLLOWED BY

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS

VS

MELBOURNE CROATIA

SATURDAY 14 FEBRUARY KO 7.15

PRESTON MAKEDONIA

VS

FRANKSTON PINES

FOLLOWED BY

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.

VS

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER